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VEHICULAR FERRY.

GOVERNMENT VIEW NOT FAVOURABLE.

EARNINGS INSUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY OUTLAY.

PROS AND CONS SET OUT.

A Sessional Paper laid before the Legislative Council this afternoon states that a vehicular ferry appears the most practical assistance to facilitate vehicular communication between Hongkong and Kowloon. The whole question is most exhaustively dealt with in the Paper, which traces the developments since a definite proposal was put forward in 1926 by the Director of Public Works.

The view is expressed that a bridge over the harbour would be impracticable, whilst with regard to a tunnel under the harbour it is stated that the cost of construction would be very much greater than the amount required for the provision of a vehicular ferry service, and would also involve heavy recurrent charges for maintenance, ventilation, drainage and lighting.

Regarding costs, the scheme originally put forward in 1926, for a service between Jordan Road and the V.R.C. site, was estimated to involve an outlay of \$1,890,000 this including a sum of \$750,000 for three ferry-boats. A scheme now put forward, with the Hongkong site at Jubilee Street, results in a saving of \$175,000 on the original plan, mainly due to a reduction in the size of the boats, the cost of which is now put at \$540,000. This would provide three boats accommodating only twelve 5-seater cars.

On the general question, the Government says it would appear that at the present time a vehicular ferry would be unable to earn a sufficient return to justify the cost of installation, although the view is expressed that such a service might replace the existing service between Jubilee Street and Yaumati.

THE JUBILEE STREET SCHEME.

Accompanying the report is a plan which shows a design for a vehicular ferry berth in front of the new Government offices between Jubilee and Pottinger Streets. The site occupies an area of 84,000 sq. ft. of which 67,000 is obtained by a reclamation, the remainder by two projecting reinforced concrete arms forming the ferry berth. The cost of constructing the proposal shown on the plan is estimated at \$655,000 (includes \$80,000 for offices) as compared with an estimate of \$620,000 for the accommodation at the Victoria Recreation Club.

The information which had been obtained regarding the amount of vehicular traffic which the proposed installation was likely to handle, was considered insufficient to enable a decision to be taken on a project involving such a large expenditure. In consequence, further investigations have been made, and this Government is indebted to many private individuals and public companies, in the Colony and abroad, for the information which has been collected.

Combined vehicular and passenger ferry services in America and Europe do not permit the transport of inflammable cargo, such as petrol, benzene, etc.; it has been decided, therefore, to exclude from consideration the transport of such goods by a vehicular ferry installation in the Colony.

It has been ascertained that cargo and freight from the godowns at Kowloon Point or the Railway Station can be delivered into Godowns on the sea front in Hongkong at a rate varying between \$1.50 and \$1.80 per ton, provided the consignment to be handled is not less than about 5 tons.

Transport and Delivery Costs. The approximate cost of transporting and delivering materials by motor lorry via the vehicular ferry, between Kowloon Point and Godown on the sea front in Hongkong would cost about \$3.30 per ton, this figure includes for about 1 1/2 miles land transport on Hongkong side, and is arrived at as follows:

First cost of lorry to carry 2 1/2 tons, \$5,000.
Number of days worked, 300.
Return trip, Kowloon, Point to

BRITAIN SIGNS THE TARIFF TREATY.

COMPLETE NANKING NEGOTIATIONS.

AUTONOMY AND GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED.

DEFINITE AGREEMENT.

Nanking, Dec. 19. Britain has come to a definite understanding with the Nanking Government regarding the proposed tariff treaty, and the signatures of Sir Miles Lampson and Dr. C. T. Wang were appended at midnight tonight. Britain has thereby extended *de jure* recognition to the Nationalist Government.

The British delegates, Sir Miles Lampson, Mr. H. H. Fox, the Commercial Counsellor, Mr. J. W. O. Davidson, the Chinese Secretary to the Legation, and Mr. Sterndale Bennett, Third Secretary, had an hour's session with Dr. C. T. Wang concerning the tariff treaty this morning.

Complete Agreement.

Other Chinese representatives at the conference were Chu Chang-shen, the Counsellor at the Nationalist Foreign Office, and two Foreign Office Secretaries. A complete agreement was reached.

Britain, through Sir Miles Lampson, announced willingness to recognise the principle of complete tariff autonomy for China. The Chinese text of the Treaty was drawn up this afternoon, and examined and verified by Mr. Davidson later in the day.

The actual signing of the document by Sir Miles Lampson and Dr. C. T. Wang took place late to-night, at midnight, it is understood.

Recognition Involved.

The final ratifications will be exchanged with London. Sir Miles Lampson's signature amounts to *de jure* recognition of the National Government, and it is understood that the British Minister is presenting his credentials to Marshal Chiang Kai-shek as President of the State Council on Thursday morning, after which he will cross to Pukow, and entrain for Peking.—*Reuter*.

Other Treaties Signed.

Later. No fewer than five treaties were definitely settled to-day, and three were signed.

The Sino-Dutch Treaty was signed at nine o'clock to-night, the Sino-Portuguese Treaty at ten o'clock and the Sino-British Tariff Treaty at midnight.

The Sino-French Treaty will be signed, it is expected, to-morrow morning as all five Ministers are due to leave for Peking in the afternoon.—*Reuter*.

Special Train.

Nanking, Dec. 20. It is understood that Dr. C. T. Wang has made special arrangements with the manager of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway to provide a through special train from Pukow to Peking to enable the representatives of the Powers to reach Peking before Christmas.

In the new Sino-Portuguese Treaty, China's right to complete tariff autonomy is recognised.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

LABOUR PARTY SUPPORTS INQUIRY.

London, Dec. 19. The National Executive of the Labour Party to-day met the Committee of the Executive Council of the Confederation of Employers in the iron and steel trades to discuss the conditions of those industries.

The Confederation Committee indicated that it contemplated requesting the Government for a full and impartial inquiry into the industries, and asked for the support of the Labour Party to that end.

After full consideration the Executive of the Labour Party agreed to render all possible support to the Confederation in its request for the proposed inquiry.—*British Wireless*.

A.P.C. PREMISES IN SERIOUS DANGER.

FIGHTING BREAKS OUT IN CHUNGKING AREA.

WARSHIP BEING SENT.

A serious situation, threatening the Asiatic Petroleum Company's installation, has suddenly developed at Chungking, on the Yangtze, according to naval wireless messages received in Hongkong this morning. The situation is such that a British warship has been ordered to leave for Chungking to protect the installation.

From brief details available, it appears that active fighting has commenced round Chungking, this being concentrated round the installation.

The Butterfield and Swire s.s. Kangting was fired at by field and machine-guns in that area, but messages received make no mention of whether or not any damage was done to the vessel.

Preparations for evacuation have been made by the present commanders of the district, and the usual boat bridges have been thrown across the Little River, presumably to facilitate evacuation.

H.M.S. Tern, which has been at Wanchien recently, has been ordered to proceed to Chungking in order to protect the A.P.C. installation.

A somewhat anxious position is being created at Hankow also by the further activities of the Wine Bureau. Definite instructions from Nanking are being ignored by officials of the Bureau who have intimated their intention to enter and search British property in defiance of Treaty rights.

SILK COCOON GODOWN DESTROYED.

SERIOUS FIRE OCCURS IN KWAICHAU.

Canton, Dec. 19. A big fire is reported from Kwai Chau, in the Shun Tak district. Commencing at 1 o'clock yesterday morning, in a silk cocoon godown, it destroyed the whole of the godown, which contained cocoons to the value of about \$20,000, as well as seven other silk cocoon godowns, fortunately all empty, and two pig shops. The total damage is estimated at about \$120,000.

Luckily, the cocoon godowns are mostly empty at this time of the year. Had such a fire occurred in the early summer when the first crops are coming in, the damage might have run into millions of dollars.—*Our Own Correspondent*.

BRANCH POLITICAL COUNCILS.

MARSHAL FENG CHANGES HIS ATTITUDE.

Nanking, Dec. 19. Marshal Feng Yu-hsiang, Chairman of the Honan branch of the Political Council, who two months ago was one of the sponsors of the proposal for the abolition of the Branch Political Councils in China, sprung a surprise in Nanking yesterday by making a public statement that he will support the movement of Mr. Chang Chi, Chairman of the Peking Branch Political Council, for the continuation of these Councils.

TRADING IN U. S. SECURITIES.

DEPARTMENT OPENED IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 19. The Produce Exchange has inaugurated a department for trading in securities.

The Exchange will deal with about 250 securities, most of which have previously been bought and sold over the counter.—*Reuter's American Service*.

GERMAN RATIFICATIONS.

Berlin, Dec. 19. The Reichstag has ratified the Trade and Shipping Agreement with the Union of South Africa, the Trade Agreements with China and Panama, the Arbitration Treaty with the United States, and the International Convention for the Abolition of Slavery.—*Reuter*.

DANGEROUS PHASE SURMOUNTED.

MEDICO SUMMARY OF KING'S ILLNESS.

DEFINITE, IF SLOW PROGRESS CONTINUES.

CHEERING BULLETIN.

London, Dec. 19. More cheering news than at any time since the King's illness was admitted to be serious, comes from Buckingham Palace to-day, the hopeful situation being summed up in an authoritative statement in the *British Medical Journal* and the *Lancet*, which concludes:

"The dangerous phase of the King's illness has been surmounted and there are increasingly solid grounds for hoping that recovery will result from this long and anxious struggle."

Larger crowds, seemingly, than ever thronged the precincts of the Palace to-night, waiting to see if the previously good bulletins were confirmed. At 8 o'clock the following bulletin was posted on the railings of the Palace:

"The King has passed a quiet day. Both general and local conditions are continuing to make slow progress."

(Signed) Stanley Hewett, Hugh Raby, Dawson of Penn.

The morning bulletin stated: "The King had a restful night. The slight improvement noted yesterday continues."

Hard Won Progress.

In official circles at the Palace, this morning's bulletin was regarded as favourable and satisfactory, but it was emphasised that the progress though definite had been slight. The advance made each day has been hard won in the right direction, but anxiety must continue for some time yet.

Lord Dawson did not return to the Palace at the usual time this afternoon, and no interim report had been issued by 4.30 p.m. This was regarded in Palace circles as a good sign that the improvement noted in the morning was continuing.

Watchers at the Palace gates were cheered this afternoon on seeing the Queen, accompanied by Princess Mary, drive out for the first time for several days.

Queen Visits Zoo.

Public anxiety was further diminished when it was learned that the Queen, Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles spent an hour at the Zoo, while the Prince of Wales watched the Amateur Squash Rackets Championship at the Bath Club and saw M. MacPherson wrest the title from the holder, Captain Cazalat.

Officials at Buckingham Palace to-night stated that there was considerably less anxiety after the issue of to-night's bulletin than before.

The slow progress reported to-night must be part of an uninterrupted improvement which must continue for some few days before complete confidence with regard to the ultimate result can be established.

As is made clear in the statement issued in the medical journals, there are, however, surer grounds for hope.

"Every slight improvement noted in the daily bulletins is one more step in the right direction."

Dr. Howitt and Dr. Woods visited the Palace this evening and gave His Majesty another application of the ray therapy treatment.

Princesses Arriving.

It is understood that the Portuguese Government has sent a wireless message to the Hereditary Duke of Gloucester, who is returning from Africa, offering to place a special train at the disposal of His Royal Highness so that he may travel overland from Lisbon and thus save nearly two days.

Prince George, who will celebrate his 28th birthday at sea to-morrow, will arrive at Southampton on Friday morning. He will proceed at once to Buckingham Palace, where he will stay.—*Reuter and British Wireless*.

VESTRIS DISASTER FINDINGS.

CAPTAIN AND CREW BLAMED FOR "INCOMPETENCE."

FAULTY LIFE BELTS.

New York, Dec. 19.

The United States Commissioner, Mr. O'Neill, has reported to Congress on Mr. Tuttle's investigation into the sinking of the British liner Vestris.

Mr. O'Neill, who recommends sweeping reforms in maritime regulations, attributes the heavy loss of life to the following causes:

1. Lack of stability of the Vestris when she encountered storms.

2. "Incompetence" of Captain Carey and the crew.

3. The antiquated type of lifebelts, which are barred by United States law, in use on the vessel.

Mr. O'Neill finds that the Vestris was not subject to the regulations of the British Board of Trade, since she did not touch her port of registry on her regular route, and that she was also not subject to the United States regulations, owing to the immunity granted to foreign vessels.

The owners of the Vestris are allowing the sister ship, the Vauban, to be tilted to one side when she next arrives in New York, so as to enable officers of the United States Inspection Service to study her behaviour in an attempt to solve the mystery of the Vestris disaster.—*Reuter's American Service*.

BRITISH COALFIELD DISTRESS.

CHURCHES ENDORSE PRINCE'S APPEAL.

London, Dec. 19. Following the appeal by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for the coalfields distress funds, a further appeal, signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the President of the Evangelical Free Churches, has been issued.

It emphasises that 250,000 miners are idle and expresses confidence that "the response to distress so unexampled in its duration and extent will prove that the fire of Christian charity is still burning in English hearts."

London, Dec. 19.

The House of Commons agreed without discussion to a Supplementary Estimate for £295,000, including a sum of £155,000 as a grant-in-aid to the Lord Mayor's Fund for assistance to distressed mining areas in England and Wales, and £20,000 for relief of distress in Scotland.—*Reuter*.

PIRACY IN CHINESE WATERS.

QUESTION RAISED IN HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, Dec. 19. In the House of Commons, Sir Robert Thomas, referring to the continuance of piracy in the China Seas, asked what measures had been adopted, or were being adopted, to protect shipping there.

Mr. W. C. Bridgeman, First Lord of the Admiralty, replied that the whole question, which touched many interests, was now and had been the earnest consideration of the Government.—*Reuter*.

PARAGUAY MORE PEACEFUL.

ORDER FOR DEMOBILISATION GIVEN.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 19. A message from Asuncion states that the Paraguayan Government has ordered demobilisation and the cessation of all official war preparations.—*Reuter*.

STATE BURIAL.

Shanghai, Dec. 19. The Central Kuomintang, in connexion with the coming State burial of the remains of the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen, has telegraphed to Europe to urge Madame Sun Yat-sen to return to China to attend the ceremony, which will take place early next year.

ENGLAND WIN THE SECOND TEST.

AN EIGHT WICKETS VICTORY.

AUSTRALIA COLLAPSE ON RESUMING INNINGS.

ONLY ADD 58 RUNS.

England won the Second Test match at Sydney by eight wickets, Australia's second innings closing at 397 runs, leaving the M.C.C. to get 15 runs for victory.

Lunch intervened between the close of Australia's innings and England's second knock, and it was an easy task though two wickets fell.

Australia suffered an almost ignominious collapse this morning, the English bowlers getting on top from the beginning and sending back the five remaining batsmen for the addition of only 58 runs!

It was absolutely an anti-climax to yesterday's big effort, though Australia's real troubles began yesterday. Everything pointed to a good recovery, prompted by Woodfull's magnificent defence, but at a critical moment, Kippax refused to answer Woodfull's call for a run, and the latter's wicket was broken.

The Turning Point.

This incident was the vital turning point. The dashing display by Ryder afterwards merely delayed the inevitable end. His runs were made against tired bowling, and the difference was clearly evident when England went into the field this morning.

Ryder, the Australian skipper (77 not out) and Dr. Nothing (not out 26) resumed this morning in warm weather before an attendance of approximately 2,000 spectators.

The wicket was still playing very fast. Ryder succumbed soon after the resumption, Chapman taking him smartly at forward leg off a fast ball by Larwood. He had added only two runs to his over-night total, making 79 altogether. He had batted splendidly for 86 minutes, and had hit one 6 and seven 4's.

Two "Ducks."

Three runs later, Oldfield, the newcomer, stepped in front of a straight ball from Tate and was given out, without breaking his "duck."

Nothing was batting strongly, and he made a short stand with Grimmett. With the score standing at 370, however, he was the victim of a smart return from Henderson to Duckworth, the wicket-keeper scattering the balls before he could gain his crease. He had batted for 98 minutes in scoring 44 runs, which included six 4's.

Grimmett popped the ball into Chapman's hands off Geary and was out for eighteen, the score then being 397. Ironmonger was clean bowled by Geary without any addition to the total.

England were left requiring fifteen runs to win and these were knocked off at a cost of two wickets.

Tate had the best bowling figures, his four wickets (three lbw) costing 99 runs.

Australia—2nd Innings.

W. M. Woodfull, run out, b 111
V. Richardson, c Hendren, b 0
Tate, b 112
H. L. Hendry, lbw, Tate, 10
A. F. Kippax, lbw, Tate, 10
J. S. Ryder, c Chapman, b Larwood, 79
O. Nothing run out, 44
W. A. Oldfield, lbw, Tate, 0
C. V. Grimmett, c Chapman, b 18
D. Blackie, not out, 11
H. Ironmonger, b Geary, 0
Extras, 12

Total, 397

W. H. Ponsford absent.

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.
Larwood, 55, 5, 105, 1
Tate, 45, 14, 99, 4
Geary, 31.4, 11, 55, 2
White, 20, 5, 83, 0
Hammond, 0, 0, 48, 0

Fall of wickets 1 for 0 (Richardson), 2 for 215 (Hendry), 3 for 234 (Woodfull), 4 for 248 (Kippax), 5 for 245 (Ryder), 6 for 248 (Oldfield), 7 for 270 (Nothing), 8 for 297 (Grimmett), 9 for 397 (Ironmonger).—*Reuter*.

The first innings scores will be found on Page 13.

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INDIAN CONSTABLE DISCHARGED.

INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO CONVICT.

The trial of Mowaz Khan, an
Indian constable, on a charge of
alleged rape against a Chinese
girl, 19 years of age, was con-
cluded at the Criminal Sessions
yesterday, before the Chief Justice
(Sir Henry Gollan).

A difficult situation arose re-
garding taking evidence from the
girl, it being stated that she could
speak a few words but could not
understand what was said to her.
In order to take her evidence, the
mother was sworn in by special
oath as interpreter, occupying a
seat with her daughter in front of
the Press box.

In reply to the Chief Justice,
the mother said she made her
daughter understand by signs and
motions.

Sir Henry Gollan:—Ask your
daughter why she is here to-day.

The mother spoke to the girl,
repeating certain words, to which
the girl replied, the mother then
intimating that her daughter did
not understand.

Apparently to test her respon-
siveness to what was said to her,
the Chief Justice directed the
mother to tell her daughter to
pick up a book from Counsel's
table, this being done after some
little explanation. In reply to
another question put by the
mother the girl said she had never
seen the man in the dock before.

The mother said she spoke re-
gularly with her daughter, who
understood no one but herself.
When the mother was told to make
her daughter repeat the usual
oath, the girl said the words with
considerable hesitation and did
not appear to grasp their mean-
ing. The Chief Justice then
directed the mother to let her
daughter explain what a lie was,
but after further conversation the
old woman said her daughter
muttered something which she
could not understand.

The Chief Justice commented
that it was a very difficult posi-
tion. The evidence of the girl
had to be sworn and he thought
the best thing to do was to go as
far as possible and if the girl could
not be made to understand then
the evidence would have to be
struck out.

Because of her inability to
understand the oath, the girl was
not called as a witness.

Other Evidence.

Evidence was given by the
mother with regard to the com-
plaint which her daughter made
to her and of their subsequent
movements.

Suliman, Indian policeman B643,
said he was with the prisoner at
the time of the alleged offence,
and stated that when they saw
the girl the prisoner told him
(witness) that he was going to
obey a call of nature. He seized
the girl by the hand and they dis-
appeared off the path. The girl
did not struggle or cry out, said
witness, nor did she say a word.
When the prisoner caught hold of
the girl, he muttered something
which witness could not under-
stand. He did not drag the girl
off the path but they both walked.

Witness further stated that he
waited for 20 minutes before the
prisoner returned.

Formal police evidence, con-
cluded the case for the Crown.

Defence Submission.

Mr. D'Almada submitted that
he had no case to answer. He
pointed out that the evidence
given by Doctor Newton was just
as consistent with consent as
without. That evidence did not
in any way imply an assault on
the girl. Also, there were no
marks of violence on her body.

Further, the evidence of Sulie-
man went to show that the act was
not committed against her con-
sent. Counsel submitted that
there was no evidence to show
that the girl did not consent.

His Lordship asked whether
there was any evidence that the
girl's state of mind was such that
she was incapable of giving con-
sent.

Mr. D'Almada replied that al-
though her mental development
had been arrested at a certain
point in her life, it was arrested
at such a point when she had
already attained the faculty of
differentiating between right and
wrong and was able to make up
her mind. Counsel added that

she voluntarily committed the act
with the prisoner but subsequently
she felt so upset, shocked and
pained, that she felt it necessary
to make some complaint to her
mother.

Arguing for the Crown, Mr.
Fitzroy contended that there was
sufficient evidence from which the

jury could reasonably infer there
was no consent. In this con-
nexion, counsel urged that the
whole of the girl's conduct after-
wards, and the fact that the pris-
oner seized her by the hand, was
some evidence of non-consent.

No Evidence.
Addressing the jury, his Lord-

ship said that he had given the
matter very careful consideration
and had also considered the
authorities. He regretted very
much that he had to come to the
conclusion that there was no
evidence to go to the jury. It was a
terrible case. If the prisoner was
guilty of rape, it was a most

serious thing that he should
escape, but the onus was always
on the Crown to establish the
necessary elements which went to
prove the offence.

One of the important elements
in the present case, continued his
Lordship, was that the act
(Continued on Page 16.)

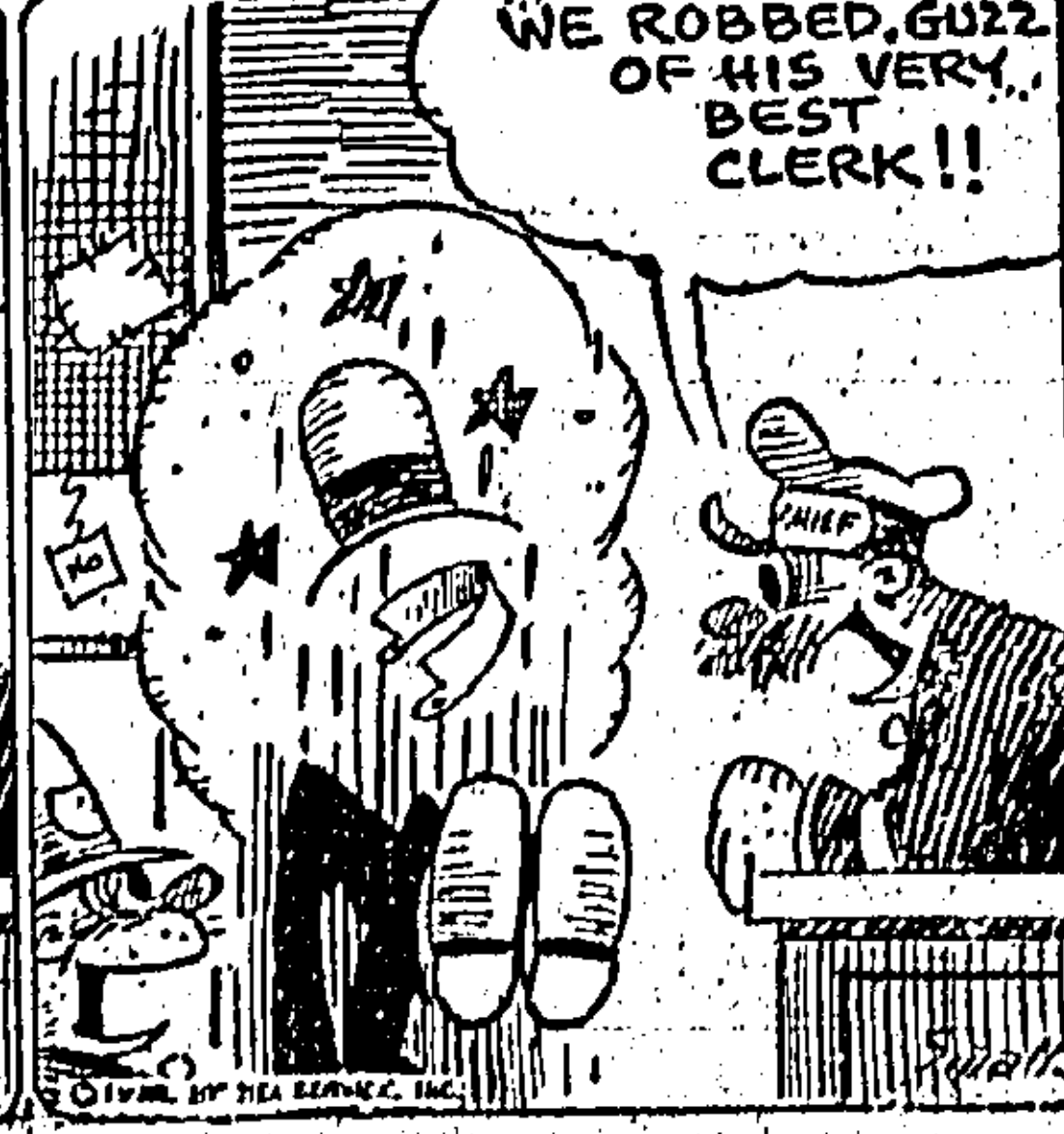
SALESMAN SAM

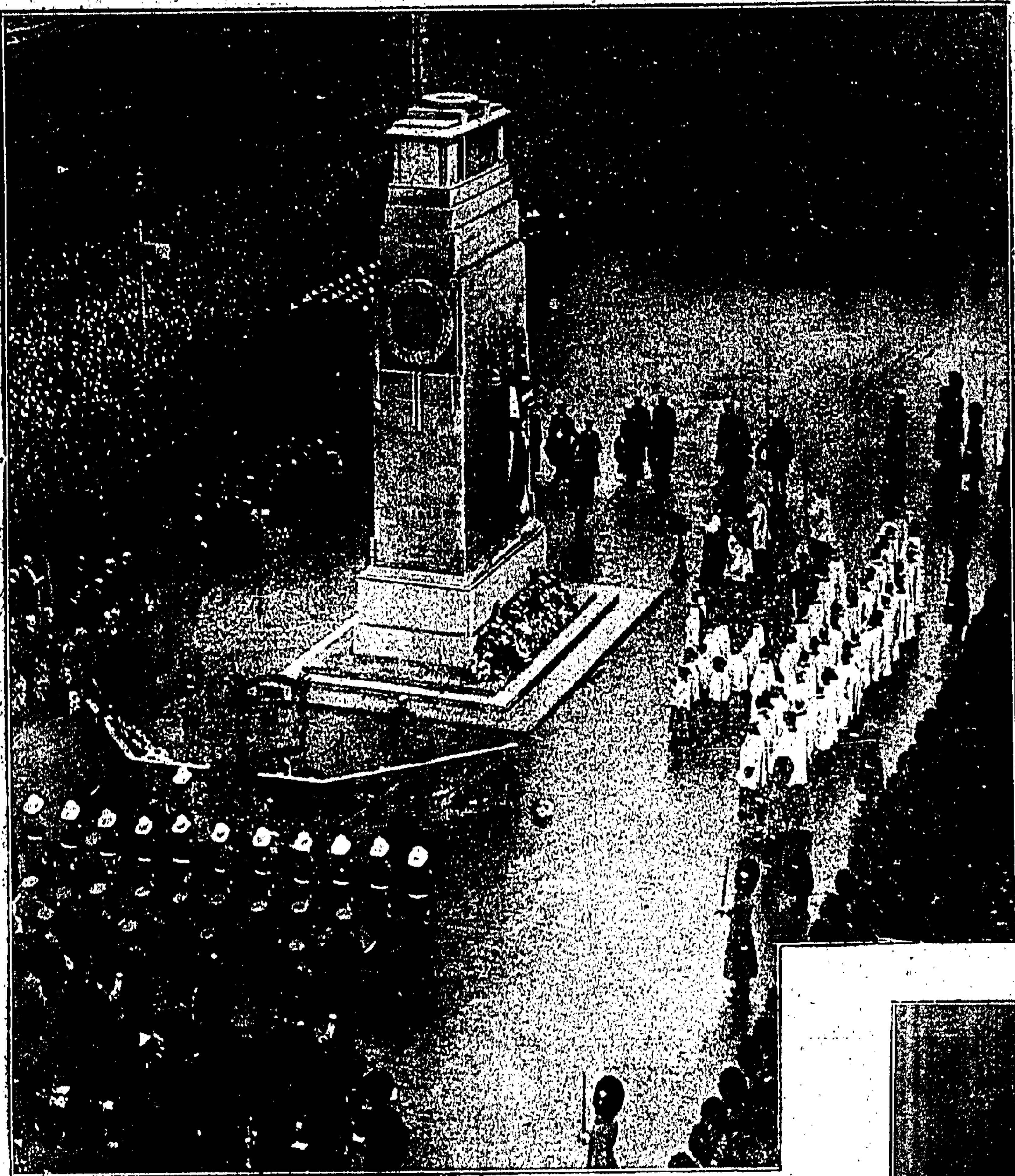
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By Small



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each day—become
rosy, plump and
full of life—try
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friend! Ask for
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EMULSION





Mr. and Mrs. Hoover taken shortly after the election result was announced.



Harry Fay, the boxer, who was rescued from the Vostrig disaster.



The Sultan of Morocco recently opened the new railway between Marrakesh and Casablanca. Our picture shows the Sultan of Morocco and his Vizier, accompanied by French Officials. (Times copyright).

The ceremony in the rain at the Cenotaph on the tenth anniversary of Armistice Day. Many thousands were present, filling Whitehall and flowing over into Parliament Square and Trafalgar Square. For the first time the whole of the ceremony was broadcast. His Majesty the King is seen standing in front of the Cenotaph during the ceremony. It is believed that it was when he bared his head shortly afterwards, that he caught the cold responsible for his illness. (Times copyright).



The resignation of Dr. Davidson from the Primacy took effect from Monday November 12, when he was succeeded by Dr. Lang, Archbishop of York. Our picture shows The Rt Hon. Most Rev. Randall Davidson. (Times copyright).



[Our picture shows the havoc caused by the Etna eruption the massive lava wave overwhelming a street of houses in Mascali, while the inhabitants look on in helplessness. (Times copyright).



Our picture shows the St. Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang, the new Archbishop of Canterbury. (Times copyright).

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You will be buying "him" a present this year, of course. You always do. But be sure and buy him something useful—he doesn't want curios. It is not the value of the gift that counts so much as the judgment in selecting it. Good judgment will lead you to Mackintosh's where selection is easy among the large array of men's presents—all good, all stylish, all useful.

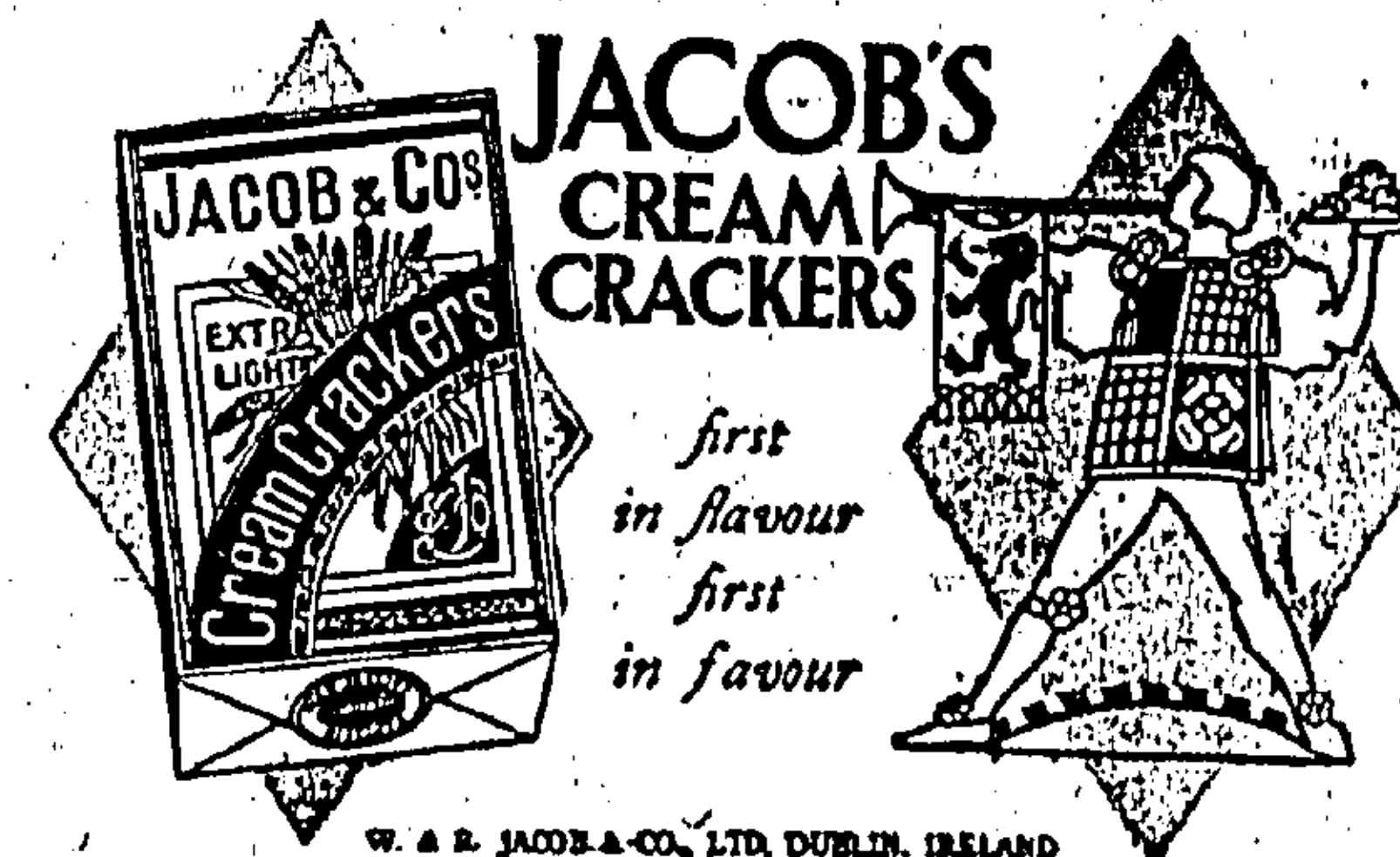
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EXTENSION 34.

STAMP DUTY PETITION.

BUSINESS COMMUNITY OPPOSE NEW BILL.

NO SUBSTANTIAL EVASION

We have received from Messrs. Lo and Lo, solicitors, a copy of the petition presented to His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government in regard to the Bill to amend the law relating to stamp duties. The petition has been signed by various bankers, firms, associations, companies, merchants and residents, the number of signatures being 247.

The petition is as follows:

1. That Your Petitioners, being of the opinion that the above mentioned Bill, if it were to become an Ordinance, would profoundly and prejudicially affect the owners of shares which are on share registers kept in the course of commercial and business transactions, would tend seriously to restrict legitimate dealings in shares, and would constitute an undue interference with well-known and vested rights of property, and that the said Bill is unnecessary and unfair, and is detrimental to the best interests of the Colony, humbly pray that Your Excellency may be graciously pleased to direct that the first reading of the said Bill may not be proceeded with and that it be abandoned altogether.

2. That Your Petitioners beg to submit below some of the grounds for entertaining the opinion above expressed.

3. That according to the "Objects and Reasons" the object of the Bill is two fold:

(a) To prevent the evasion of Estate Duties.

(b) To prevent the evasion of Stamp Duties.

4. That before setting out their reasons in support of their respectful contention that there is, in practice, no evasion in either case to such an extent as to justify the legislation contemplated, and that, even assuming, for the sake of argument, the existence of such evasion, the avowed object of the Bill will not be achieved by the proposed enactment, Your Petitioners desire to make some preliminary observations upon the more general question of "Blank Transfer," which constitutes the *raison d'être* of the Bill.

5. That as between the Company and a shareholder thereof, the latter remains a shareholder with all the rights and liabilities as such, unless and until another person has been registered as holder in his stead in the books of the Company.

"Until the instrument of transfer is registered the transfer is not complete; the transferee is the legal owner of the shares, and, if they are not fully paid, is liable to pay all the calls made thereon, while his name remains on the register of members" (Halsbury's Laws of England, Vol. 5, page 192).

6. That although this is the position as between the Company and a shareholder, yet as between the latter and third parties, he can deal with the shares, which are mere "choses in action," in the course of everyday business transactions, and without registering any instrument of transfer with the Company, by resorting to the long established practice of "Blank Transfer."

7. That this practice was founded on mere convenience; the incidence of fiscal imposition, and the correlated problem of finding legitimate means of avoiding legal liability for the impost, had nothing whatever to do with its genesis or its development. Its historic origin is synchronous with the creation of statutory limited liability of shareholders. It has received high judicial recognition in England, and the English Revenue Law has made provision for its operation.

8. That after all, this practice, and the judicial and statutory recognition of its existence are easily understandable. Because the absence—or prohibition—of such a practice, must involve the necessity of resorting to the formal, and cumbersome registration of the legal transfer of title as a condition, precedent or subsequent, to every transaction, with all its consequent delay and inconvenience, and this necessity would at once destroy the fundamental nature of shares and their intrinsic value as marketable securities readily utilizable to meet business and commercial requirements.

Authorities.

9. That in support of the position postulated in the preceding three paragraphs, English Authorities could be cited at random, but Your Petitioners beg leave to submit the few quotations which follow:

(a) "Upon a sale or mortgage of shares, the transferor very commonly signs and hands over what is called a blank transfer (i.e. a transfer signed by the transferor but with a blank for the name of the transferee), the intention being that the purchaser or mortgagee shall be at liberty later on to fill up the blank and perfect his security by getting himself registered." (Palmer's Company Law, 12th Edition, page 138).

(b) "The most common method of rendering registered securities available as cover, or as security for a debt, is by depositing with the lender the certificate relating to the same accompanied by a transfer specifying the securities and executed by the registered holder, but in blank as to the date and the name of the transferee. Such a transaction constitutes an equitable mortgage."

"If the registered holder of securities gives a blank form of transfer, together with the

certificates for the shares, to a creditor by way of security, he thereby confers upon him authority to complete his security by filling up the transfer and obtaining registration." (Halsbury's Laws of England, Vol. 27, para. 483 and 484, pp. 236 and 237).

(c) "Sometimes the articles require a transfer to be by deed, but this requirement causes inconvenience and secures no benefit. Thus where the transfer may be by instrument in writing as above, the shareholder may sign a blank transfer, and hand it over to a purchaser or mortgagee, with authority to the holder of it for the time being to fill in the name of a transferee and such a transfer when filled up can be sent in for registration, and no objection can be raised by the company to its validity." (Authorities quoted). "But where a deed is required, this convenient plan is not properly available; for a deed executed in blank is inoperative as a legal transfer." (Authorities quoted). "Nevertheless, such are the exigencies of business, that even where a deed is required blank transfers are frequently resorted to, in the expectation that the company will not notice or take advantage of the irregularity. It seems, however, desirable to make the articles accord with the general practice." (Palmer's Company Law, 12th Edition, Part I, pp. 669 and 670).

Court of Appeal Case.

(d) *A Court of Appeal case—Stubbins v. Slater* (1910 1 C. D. 632).

That case involves certain share transactions between a broker and a client and in which the client deposited with the broker as security a certificate for 300 Gas shares and signed a blank transfer of the same. At the bottom of page 638 *et seq.* Cozens-Hardy M.R. says as follows:

"The plaintiff handed over to the brokers one certificate for the 300 shares together with a transfer executed by the plaintiff in blank, in which the numbers of the shares were specified, but the name of the purchaser and the consideration were, of course, not specified. It was the ordinary well-known transfer in blank. Now what is the effect of that? I am astonished that there should be any doubt about it. So long ago as 1899 *Stirling J.* in *London and Midland Bank v. Mitchell* (1) dealt with a case of precisely this nature and indicated what was the legal effect of it. That was a case in which certain shares together with a blank transfer had been deposited with a bank to secure a debt, and it was held that the bank had not lost their right against the shares although their simple contract remedy against the client was lost by reason of the Statute of Limitations. The Court there pointed out that the whole transaction was a mortgage as to which the bank were entitled to the ordinary remedy of foreclosure."

Lord Justice Buckley, in dealing with one of the points raised in that case, namely, that the broker in the circumstances should not have sold all the shares in one lot, says:

"That leaves a third point. It is said that the brokers sold too many shares. I confess that is a contention which surprises me. The plaintiff had given the brokers a transfer of 300 shares together with one share certificate for 300 shares. The transfer was signed by the transferor in blank. The brokers were therefore in possession of an instrument which enabled them to sell and complete the sale of 300 shares, and no less. It is said that they ought to have sold only 300 out of the 300, that they should first have filled in their own names as transferees of the 300 and then have sold 300. Suppose the shares had been partly paid shares. Were the mortgages bound to put the shares into their own names? Certainly not."

Registration of Transfers.

10. That in support of Your Petitioners' contention set out above that the English Revenue Law has made provision for the operation of the system of Blank Transfer, Your Petitioners desire to refer to a statement contained in Halsbury's Laws of England, Vol. 27, page 245, which is quoted in paragraph 21 (5) hereof, to the effect that the transfer, in the case of a purchase on a Stock Exchange, contains the price payable by the ultimate purchaser, and that this price, where the transaction has passed through intermediate purchasers, may differ from that to be received by the transferor. That statement quotes the Stamp Act, 1891, section 58 (4) as governing the amount of Stamp Duty payable in such cases, which subsection is as follows:

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"(4) Where a person having contracted for the purchase of any property, but not having obtained a conveyance thereof, contracts to sell the same to any other person, and the property is in consequence conveyed immediately to the sub-purchaser, the conveyance is to be charged with ad valorem duty in respect of the consideration moving from the sub-purchaser."

11. That the Bill seeks to prevent any transaction or dealing in shares unless the same is followed by a formal registration with the Company; in other words, it seeks to abolish the universally recognised and long established practice of "Blank Transfer."

12. That upon the receipt of an application for transfer, the registering Company has certain duties to perform in ascertaining that the

transfer is valid. And that "in order to ascertain whether a transfer is valid, and as to whether, when there is a discretion to refuse registration, the transferee ought to be registered, the directors must have a reasonable time to consider the matter. Usually the directors notify to the registered holder that a transfer has been lodged for registration. If the registered holder does not reply to such a notification and a forged transfer is registered, he is not stopped from having the register rectified by substituting his name for that of the transferee." (Halsbury's Laws of England, Vol. 5, page 192).

13. That, at present, when registration of transfers is optional and not compulsory, the period taken to perfect a registration varies with the nature of the property transferred. (Continued on Page 6.)



If you want him to appreciate the gift as well as the sentiment—

SEND HIM
Three Castles
CIGARETTES

STAMP DUTY PETITION.

(Continued from Page 5.)

different companies from a couple of days to one week or even longer. It would, Your Petitioners submit, be a fair assumption to make that, under the new provisions, the number of registrations will increase and not decrease, and that the time taken to perfect a registration will correspondingly be lengthened and not reduced.

Numerous Difficulties.

14. That Your Petitioners submit that the practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the provisions of the proposed enactment are too numerous and complicated to be exhaustively set out, and they ask leave to state a few hypothetical cases by way of example:

- (1) Suppose A, wishing to buy some shares, has arranged with a personal friend B, to lend him part of the purchase price, on the understanding that B, was to have an equitable mortgage on the shares for the loan. How would the transaction be carried out under the new provisions?
- (2) Suppose, further, that B, a month later, has to make a business trip to Canton. Before he leaves, he would naturally entrust his marketable securities to the custody of his partner or some responsible agent. Suppose that, during B's absence, A, for pressing business reasons, desires to sell out the shares. How would A complete the proposed transaction and obtain a "conveyance" from B, who is absent?
- (3) In some well-known companies the shares of which are regarded as first-class investment, the directors exercise a very strict discretion as to not allowing more than a certain number of shares to be registered in the name of a person. At present anyone wishing to buy shares in such a company, but for reasons indicated above, is unable to obtain a registration of such shares in his name, adopts the expedient of having the shares transferred in the name of a trusted nominee who hands back to such a person the scrip together with a blank transfer. How can such a person now invest his money in such shares?
- (4) Frequently shareholders who are desirous of having someone to be on the Board of Directors to represent and look after their interest lend shares to such a person to enable him to have the necessary qualification shares as a director. In such cases the usual procedure is for the shareholders to transfer the necessary shares into the name of the proposed director who hands back the scrips together with blank transfers to the true owners. How would such shareholders carry out such an arrangement under the new provisions?
- (5) Loans are frequently obtained on the security of partly-paid-up shares under the existing practice of blank transfer, when lenders are satisfied with the temporary financial position of the company, and are not themselves subject to any risk of future calls. They would not lend if the shares had to be transferred into their names.

No Substantial Evasion.

15. That, indeed, Your Petitioners submit that the manifold and well-nigh insuperable difficulties in the way of compliance with the suggested provisions, having regard, on the one hand, to the time which the registering company must necessarily take, in ascertaining the genuineness of the transferor's signature, in making enquiries from the transferor as to the risk of fraud or forgery, and in generally perfecting the transfer, and, on the other hand, to the frequency, urgency, and multiplicity of everyday commercial, business, and friendly transactions, are too obvious to be laboured by Your Petitioners.

16. That Your Petitioners humbly suggest that, as regards imposts such as Estate Duties, the possibility of their evasion must inevitably increase in proportion to the degree of what Your Petitioners may loosely describe as "negotiability" possessed by the property which it is sought to tax. For instance, Your Petitioners venture to think that there is no property which is more susceptible of evading Death Duties than bank notes and Currency, and yet would anyone suggest that the negotiability of bank notes and Currency should be destroyed, or even impaired, for the sake of preventing the evasion of Death Duties?

17. That the proposed legislation will fundamentally affect the proprietary interest of shareholders. It will prevent such shareholders from exercising their vested and legitimate rights of dealing with their own properties in the way they please. It will, in short, entail consequences on shares which can fairly be described as revolutionary in their effect and disastrous in their operation. And it will, finally, necessitate the creation by the Executive, for the purpose of carrying out its provisions, of two entirely new, privileged and arbitrary classes of persons, i.e., "Authorized Bankers" and "Authorized Dealers."

18. That, entirely apart from, and irrespective of, the practical difficulties referred to above, Your Petitioners humbly but earnestly submit that such legislation cannot be supported unless an overwhelming case of necessity, and in the interests of the well-being of the community as a whole, could be made out by the Government. Your Petitioners humbly submit that mere evasion of Duties emphatically cannot constitute such a case, for it should be the duty of the Government to devise some means, in accordance with constitutional prin-

ciples, to prevent such evasion, without resorting to the simple but unfair expedient of punishing the innocent with the guilty.

19. That Your Petitioners submit that, in fact and in truth, there is no substantial evasion of Duties in either case, and beg leave to deal with each case in turn.

Estate Duties.

20. Estate Duties.

- (1) That Shares belonging to a deceased person, which were his at the time of his death, and although accompanied by blank transfers signed before his death, of course constitute "property of which the deceased was at the time of his death competent to dispose" and are liable as such to Estate Duty. (Estate Duty Ordinance, 1916, section 5 (1) (a).)
- (2) That whatever might have been the practice in the past, Your Petitioners understand that the practice is, and has for some time been, for the Estate Duty Commissioner to notify all the local companies of the death of any person, representation to whose estate is being applied for.
- (3) That in any case such a practice could easily be introduced. Under such a practice, on receipt of such a notification, the company concerned would inform the Estate Duty Commissioner of any transfers which had already taken place, and such company would hold up any application for transfer sent in subsequent to the notification, until the Estate Duty Commissioner had been communicated with and his sanction had been obtained.
- (4) That Your Petitioners understand the following cases are merely examples of numerous similar cases within the experience of local legal practitioners: (a) A well-known Chinese gentleman, a few months prior to his death, took out from his bank some "Union" shares which he sold to meet some business obligations. The purchaser took possession of the scrips and blank transfers, but did not send them to the Company for registration until some time after the seller's death. What happened? The transfer was held up; it was only after the Estate Duty Commissioner had been completely satisfied by the clearest evidence of the bona fide sale prior to the seller's death, and that the shares were accordingly not liable to duty, that the purchaser could perfect his registration.
- (b) Another Chinese gentleman, who had purchased certain shares and had them transferred to his name, sold them years before his death. He died insolvent. There was no "estate" to be administered, and no application for legal representation to his estate was necessary. Before the true owner could effect the necessary transfer, the Estate Duty Commissioner had to be similarly satisfied.

Remedy for Evasion.

- (5) Having regard to such safeguards, Your Petitioners submit that evasion of Estate Duty must be rare. If any evasion still exists, it must, it is conceived, be confined to the cases where the death is unknown to the Estate Commissioner, and the estate consists of property of such a nature that, as a matter of practical necessity, no application for legal representation need be made. Cases of this kind would probably be few and negligible. Moreover, even as regards such cases, and, indeed, other possible cases of evasion, Your Petitioners submit that a cogent answer to the suggested desperate remedy is as follows: (a) If the death takes place in Hongkong, the Government should experience no difficulty in ascertaining such a death, and acting on it, on the fair assumption that there is businesslike co-operation between the Estate Duty Department and the Registrar of Births and Deaths.
- (b) In any event the Bill can be no more efficacious in preventing cases of wilful evasion, since care would naturally be taken to get the person to sign the blank transfer before his death, and to obtain due registration under the suggested provisions. Indeed, in the realm of criminology, forging the deceased's signature to a transfer for the purpose of evading duty is of course not unknown.
- (c) That application for legal representation involves the making of an oath or affirmation verifying the account which has to be filed with the Estate Duty Commissioner, and which is set out "all the property in respect of which Estate Duty is payable upon the death of the deceased" (Estate Duty Ordinance 1916, Section 10); and a false declaration renders the person making the same liable to the severe sanction of the law of perjury. Moreover, heavy penalties are imposed by the Ordinance for "inter-meddling" (Section 19); and for delay in lodging the account with the Estate Duty Commissioner (Section 12).
- (7) That Your Petitioners submit that the existing law should therefore furnish a sufficient deterrent to evasion. Your Petitioners venture to suggest that if it is not effective in stopping evasion to date, it is because human nature being what it is, no law can abolish crime in its entirety.
- (8) That having made their humble submissions that the proposed legislation cannot be justified by

(Continued on Page 28.)

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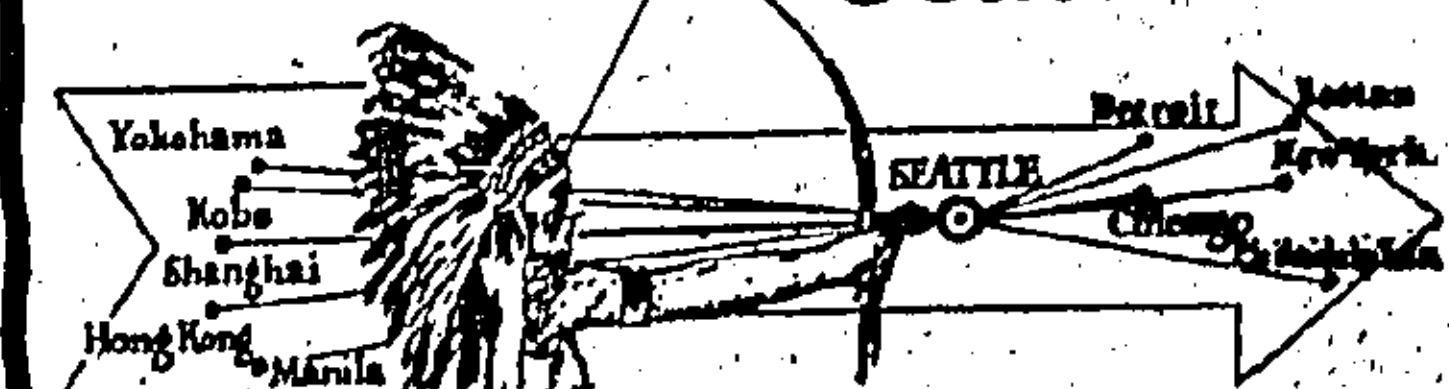
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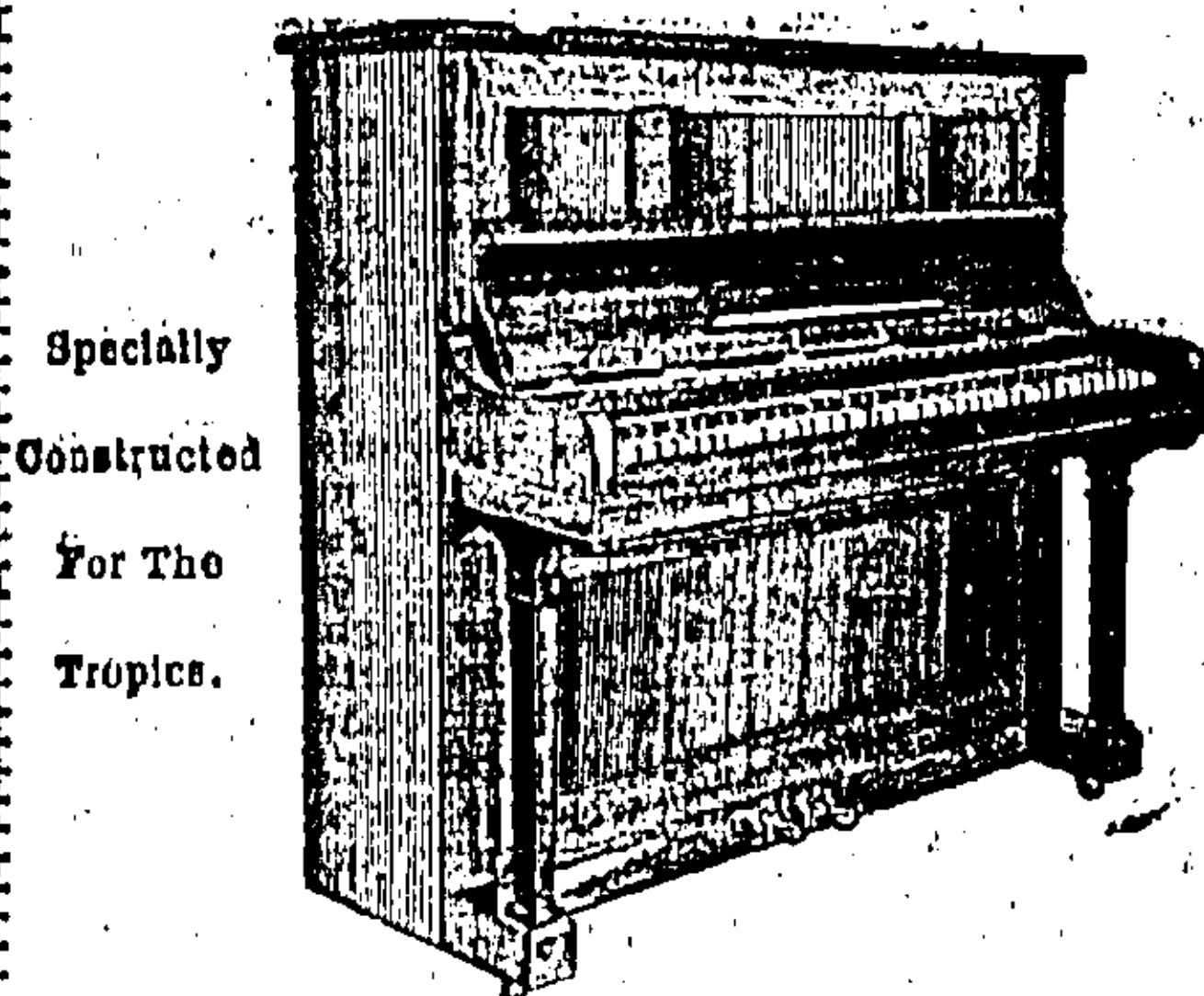
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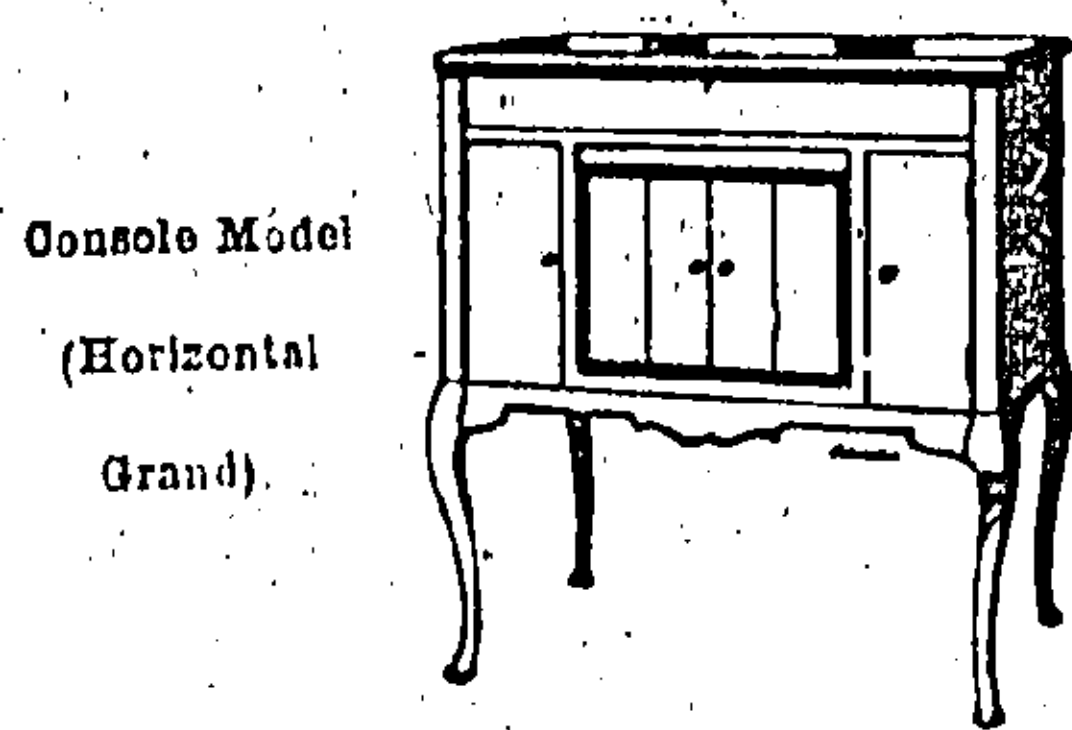


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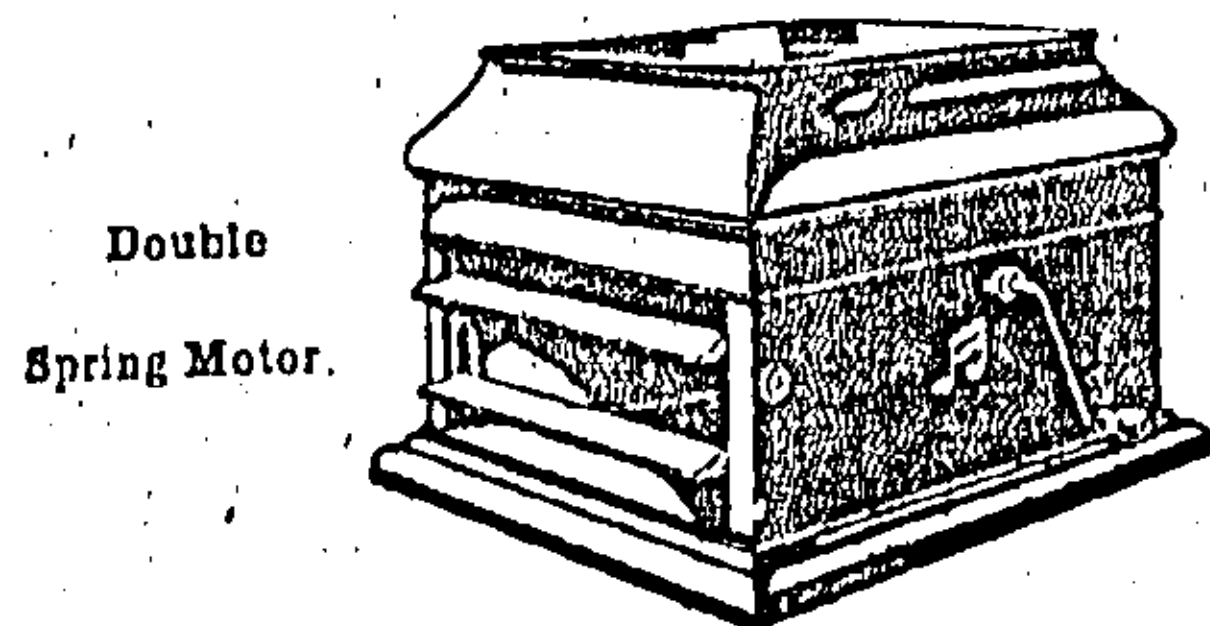


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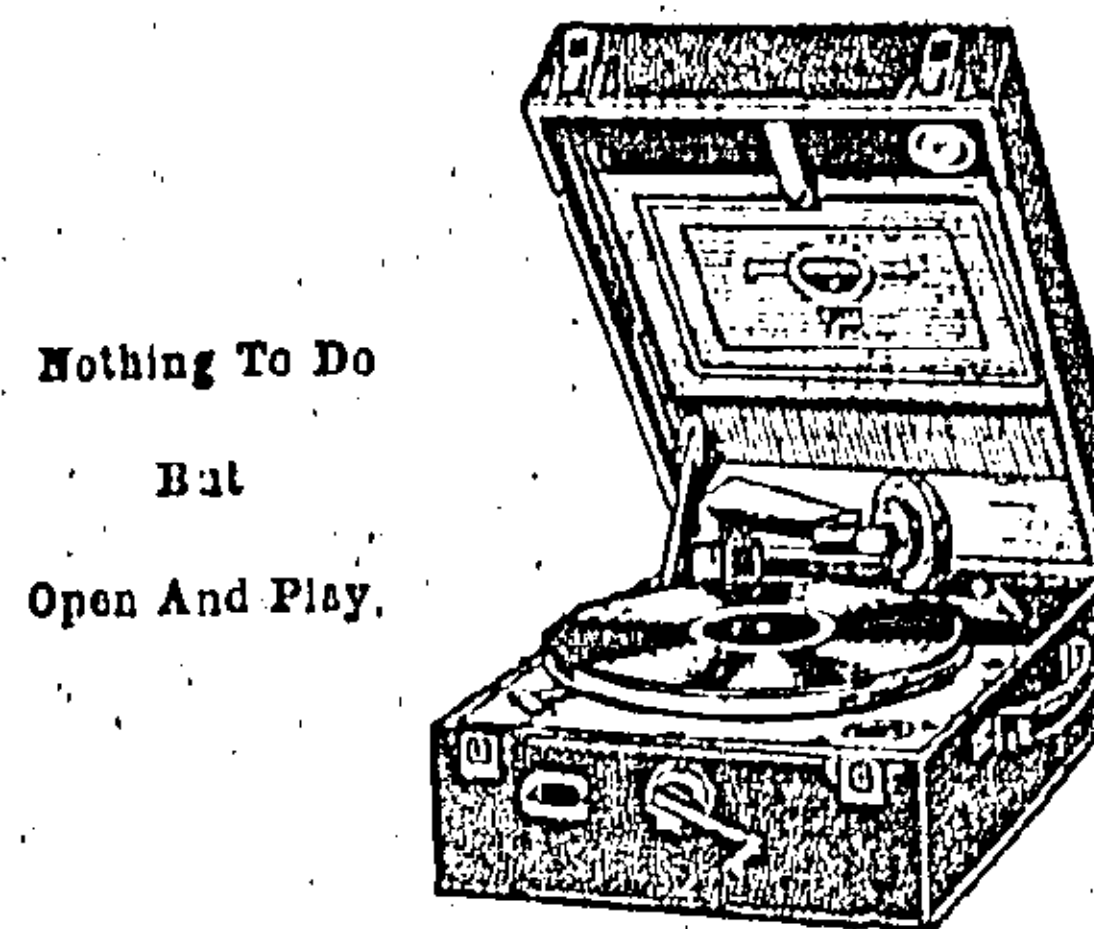


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For wise Mothers.

VEHEMENT QUESTION OF DISCIPLINE.

[By the Hon. Mrs. St. Aubyn.]

When dealing with children one is so often conscious of a pleasant feeling of superiority. The child's uncritical faculty for giving one wholesale admiration is responsible for this.

When disciplining a child, remember that, difficult as it is for you to see his point of view, it is even more difficult for him to see yours.

Don't forget to show a child your love for him sometimes. Indiscriminate kissing and an affection which gives in to him are a mistake, but every child needs a certain amount of mothering.

Never let the fact that you are in authority make you exert your powers unfairly; that is to say, never give an order just to show you will be obeyed, but only give that order because it is a necessary one.

If Grown-Ups Disagree.

Never let a child see that grown-ups do not always act in unison. Support authority before the child, whatever you may think yourself. When giving an order, explain the reasonableness of it, and put it as a request. For example, say: "Please wash your sticky hands so that they won't dirty your clean dress."

No two children are alike, and you must think out your theory of management for each child.

People sometimes forget how terribly reserved a child can be. Think back into your own childhood and remember your own re-

serve—the people your hated, perhaps all the more vividly because you suppressed it. Children have to bow down so often to people in authority whom they hate, and the only reason given them for this submission is that they must do it because they are not "grown up." Never let the child feel inferior; such a feeling will probably react as follows: Either the child will try to become the "top-dog" by attracting attention to himself (it is extraordinary what lengths a child will go to in order to get this attention). The alternative to this is that he will become too humble, not daring to take any steps on his own; in short, that he will lose his personality and power of initiative.

Criticism in Public.

Remember that the child is an adult in the making. An adult does not like to be criticised publicly; it often rouses in him so much indignation that he no longer sees his fault, and yet he, being grown up, is in a better position than the child to realise why he is being criticised. When possible, take the child quietly apart and then criticise him. Too much public criticism is sure to make the child either callous or to give him a sense of inferiority to his playmates.

Another point frequently lost sight of when dealing with children is that grown-up people strike the child as being creatures so different that it would not dawn on the average child that he himself is a miniature grown-up. Apart from their size, grown-up people seem to him to have a life so free and varied. To him insurmountable difficulties can be easily overcome by these Olympians, so why and how their rules apply to him needs explanation.

Discipline wisely administered does not cow or check the child.

The Healthier Sex.

BENEFITS OF LOW NECKS AND SILK STOCKINGS.

Women are becoming the stronger sex.

This statement was made before the Tri-State Medical Association recently, at Atlantic City, by Dr. Ephraim Mulford, president of the New Jersey Medical Society. He said:

"To-day our American women are in better physical condition than our men. Their silk stockings and low necks, their garments, light in weight and colour, permit the ultra-violet ray of the sun to give its full benefit."

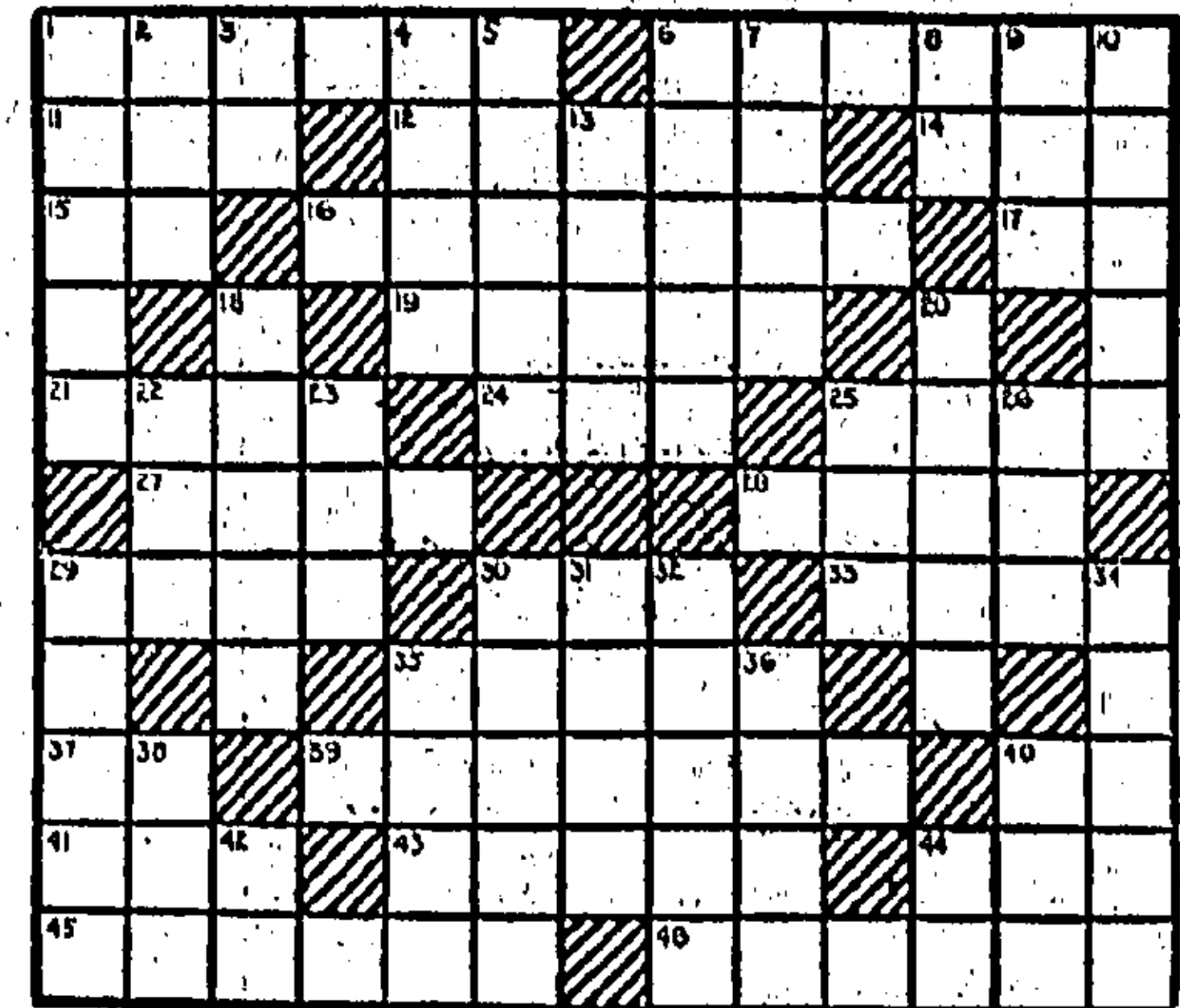
"Men, in their dark clothes which cover them completely from neck to ankle, are denied this energy. Men might well abandon collars and wear V-necked shirts with short sleeves, knee-length pants, leaving bare legs, and short socks."

"Women are proving, without fear of contradiction, that they are stronger. They can stand long swims in icy cold water, they can play tennis from sunrise to sunset, and they live longer than men."

Dr. Mulford praised women for their ability to relax, saying: "While they go wholeheartedly into every form of activity, they realise the importance of once in a while taking a complete rest. Often that time is when they are having a manure or a Marcel wave. Men do not rest even when they are being shaved."

In fact, he needs it until he has learnt, by experience and practice, to discipline himself.

OUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



Horizontal

- 1 What part of the coat of the eye is transparent and admits light to the interior?
- 6 What membrane of the eye receives the image formed by the lens?
- 11 Supper.
- 12 Formed a climbing plant.
- 14 The ocean.
- 15 Behold.
- 16 Displace.
- 17 Abbreviation for "pair."
- 19 Three plus four.
- 21 Long, open portico for athletic exercises.
- 24 Rodent.
- 25 A lament.
- 27 On top of.
- 28 Victim.
- 29 To leave out.
- 30 Tiny flap.
- 33 Minute particle.
- 35 Heaps.
- 37 Neuter pronoun.
- 39 Crescent-shaped.
- 40 Correlative of either.
- 41 Promise.
- 42 To change a diamond setting.
- 44 Constellation.
- 45 To what genus does the common spider belong?
- 46 A crown of leaves of what tree is given to those deserving honours?

Vertical

- 1 What is the group of external leaves of a flower called?
- 2 Indian tribe.
- 8 Second note in a scale.
- 4 Nights preceding holidays.

5 Marksman.

- 6 To face as an embankment.
- 7 Paradise.
- 8 Exists.
- 9 Cluster of fibres in wool staple.
- 10 Who was the priestly associate of Moses? (Bib.)
- 13 A new star.
- 18 Out of bed.
- 20 Look.
- 22 Sweet potato.
- 23 Child.
- 25 Flightless ratlike bird.
- 26 Bustle.
- 28 A branch of what tree is considered an emblem of peace?
- 30 Ringworm.
- 31 Exclamation of sorrow.
- 32 Pepper nut.
- 34 Ethnic.
- 35 To mow.
- 36 Caterpillar hair.
- 38 Peak.
- 40 Native metal.
- 42 You and I.
- 44 Measure of area.

Yesterday's Solution.

W	A	G	N	E	R	C	A	R	S	O
I	D	E	A	L	P	L	O	S	E	R
C	I	M	P	E	D	U	D	L	E	A
A	T	S	P	E	C	I	A	L	E	M
N	D	R	A	C	E	S	L	R		
P	A	N	N	I	T	D	I	C		
S	I	Z	E	T	N	H	O	N	E	S
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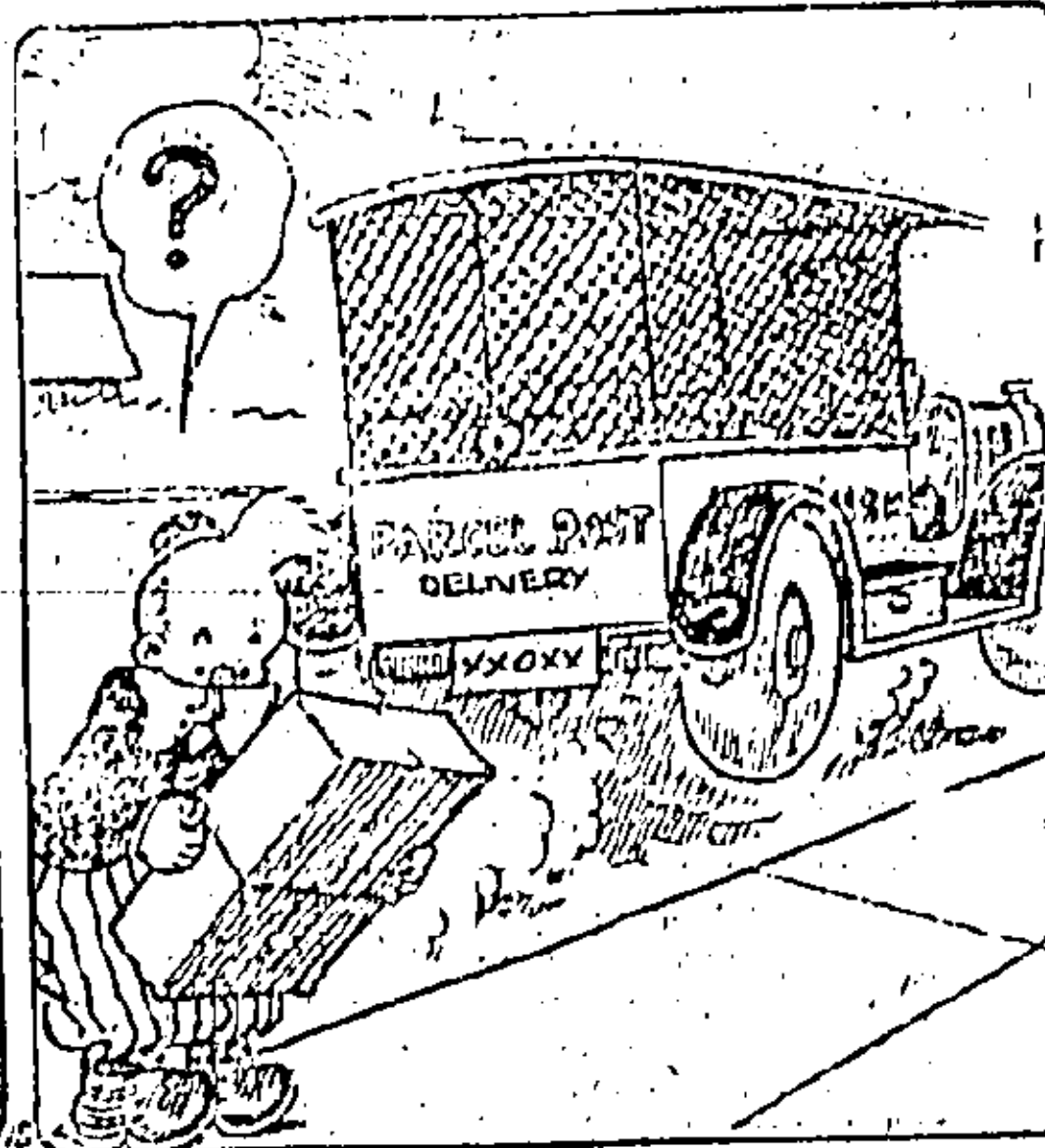
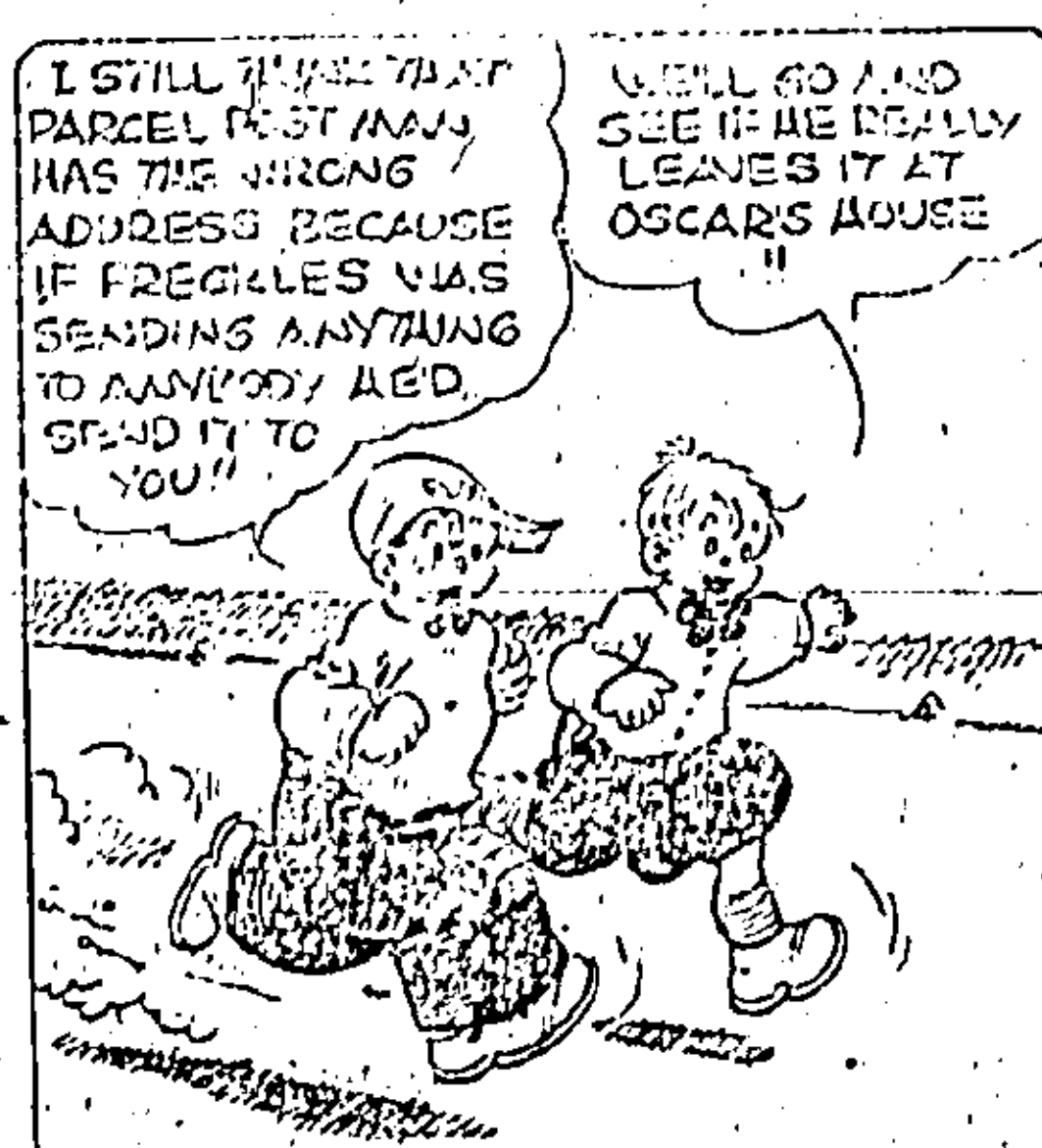
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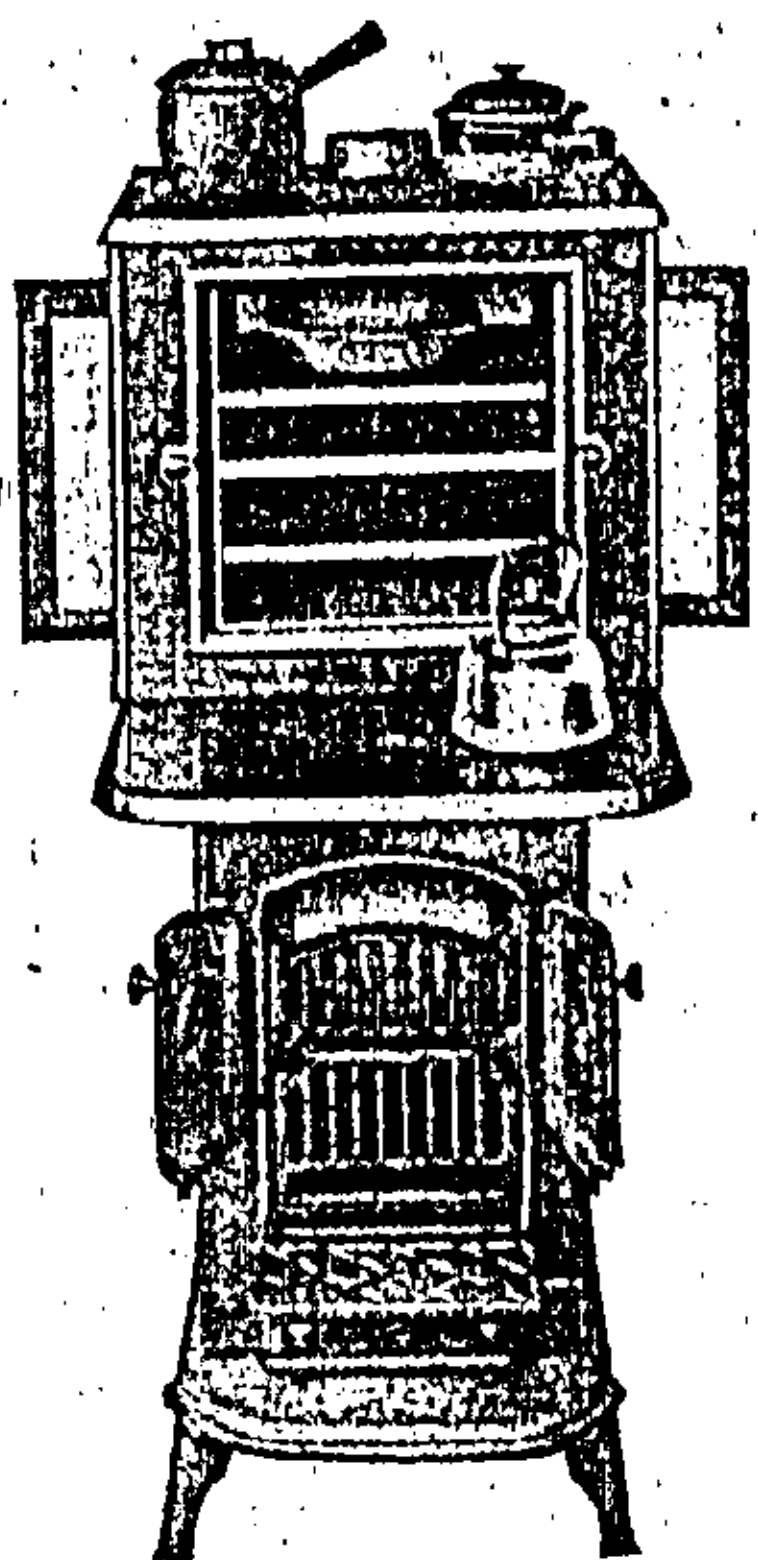
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The Hongkong Telegraph.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20, 1928.

TRADE WITH CHINA.

In the hope that China is at last settling down to an era of peace and good government, foreign countries are turning their attention with renewed interest to trade possibilities in this part of the world. In a speech delivered to the British Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai recently, Dr. H. H. Hung, the Chinese Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labour, stressed the growing possibilities of the China market, and hazarded the view that the future participation of British commercial and industrial houses in China was bound to be enormous. He based this view on the certainty that with the development of natural resources and the opening up of the means of communication, China, with her supplies of raw materials and her market for finished products, would offer to the commercial world the greatest opportunity imaginable.

In a recent report on the outlook in China, Mr. H. H. Fox, the Commercial Counsellor at the British Legation in Peking, doubted whether the time had yet come for any considerable development of British trade—a view which seems to us to under-rate the possibilities. He was, however, constrained to call attention to the competition being offered by other countries, and stressed the need of British manufacturers doing their utmost to reduce production costs to the lowest possible level, if our former trade is to be recovered. In this connexion, it is worth bearing in mind that Germany, in particular, is concentrating on the China market, with results which are being reflected in a marked increase in trade. Figures which have been recently issued show that the exports of German goods is steadily on the rise, this applying especially to hardware of all kinds, machines and electro-technical products, textiles, leather goods, stationary, glass, ceramics and toys. It is recorded that the demand enjoyed for these goods is largely due to the understanding manner in which German manufacturers are adapting their offers to the peculiarities of Eastern markets. In passing, it may be mentioned that the Leipzig Fair has been performing a most useful function in this direction, and that at the Spring Fair this year nearly five hundred buyers from Asia were amongst those who assembled to see what Germany had to offer. China possesses an abundant wealth of raw

materials for which there is a good demand in Europe, and recently-issued figures show that the exports to Germany from this part of the world are growing to an extent which is comparable with the German exports of finished products. The value of goods exchanged with China in 1927 surpassed the 1913 figures by 48 per cent, whilst the first six months of the present year show a volume equal to the whole of the 1913 total trade to Germany.

Other countries are also making bold bids for more trade with China, and as Chinese friendship with Britain is now on a far better basis than for many years past, there is every reason why special efforts should be made to win back some of our lost markets. The harvest will obviously be reaped by those who prepare themselves for its coming, and if at the immediate moment the prospects are not all that we could wish them to be, there is every reason why British manufacturers should utilise the opportunity to be ready when the outlook begins to brighten. In no sphere is preparedness more necessary than in the realm of commerce.

Afghanistan's Troubles.

It is good to learn that the trouble in Afghanistan is much less serious than the trend of events appeared to indicate and that the alleged revolution is not only confined to a small area, but is well in control. It may possibly be that the affair has been minimised by Afghan officials, but reassuring news has been received officially concerning the British Legation, which is two miles out of Kabul, its isolation and openness to attack having given rise to the gravest apprehension. An R.A.F. machine, however, has established that Sir Francis and Lady Humphreys are safe, at the same time confirming the London report that the outbreak at the capital has been effectively suppressed. The disturbances, an offshoot of the Shinwari rebellion in the Eastern Province round Jelalabad, are attributed to disaffection for King Amanullah's Westernising reforms, and we may be sure that the end is not yet. His tour of Europe gave King Amanullah an insight into modern values, and a great respect for European institutions. Since his return, he has proceeded steadily to introduce a host of far-sighted measures with the object of bringing Afghanistan out of comparative barbarity within the shortest possible space of time. Great new motor roads have been constructed, money has been diverted from military to educational purposes, new public buildings have been erected, and in European eyes, Amanullah has proved himself an exceedingly able administrator. Unfortunately, the tribal leaders, the Mullas, have not had Amanullah's experience, and their inherent conservatism revolts. It is suggested that the reforms are not the cause of the trouble, and that the newly imposed passport regulations and new taxation alone were responsible. It is more likely, however, that these merely served to apply the spark of life to smouldering fires. It remains to be seen how far the vigorous protests will affect Amanullah's ambitions. Probably not at all. The situation is such that he will have to push on with his whole programme, or give it up entirely, and past experience would suggest that he is sufficiently powerful to negotiate the present difficulties and restore peace to his realm without conceding any important principle.

EXCHANGE RATES.

	London, Dec. 11.
Paris	124.05
New York	48.59/10
Brussels	34.88
Geneva	25.18
Amsterdam	32.05
Berlin	20.50
Stockholm	18.12
Copenhagen	18.19
Oslo	18.19
Vienna	34.45
Prague	103.3
Helsingfors	192.3
Madrid	20.78/4
Athens	37.5
Bucharest	80.7/4
Rio	5.57/64
Buenos Aires	47.11/32
Bombay	1/6.1/32
Shanghai	2/7
Hongkong	2/0/4
Yokohama	1/10.23/32
Silver (spot)	26.5/16
Silver (forward)	26 3/4

—British Wireless.

SANTA CLAUS THE WORLD OVER.

[By Leslie Reid.]

Wherever the spirit of Christmas prevails and the good old festival is celebrated in the good old spirit of friendliness and goodwill, there you will find that Santa Claus is the most honoured guest. He is known and welcomed the world over. It is very strange that a boyish saint from the dark ages of European history should have become the patron saint of children at Christmastide, and that even his own particular day has been pushed forward three weeks for the convenience of the little ones. Yet so it is. Listen to the glorious story.

Santa Claus is a corruption of St. Nicholas. And who was he? He was born in Asia Minor, in the fourth century, and became Bishop of Myra at an early age. Why he became the patron saint of children is not difficult to discover, for he certainly wrought valiantly on their behalf. On one occasion he heard that a nobleman proposed to put his three young daughters to death because he had no money with which to endow them, and was not disposed to leave them to the tender mercy of the wicked world. St. Nicholas marched straight to his house, blew away the dark clouds that surrounded it, and through an open window cast a purse of gold which enabled the nobleman to portion his eldest daughter. The next night he flung in another purse, which went to the nobleman's second daughter; and on the third night he provided for the youngest daughter in a similar way. By this time the nobleman was on the watch for his unknown benefactor, and on the third night he seized St. Nicholas and would not let him go until he had disclosed his identity.

On another occasion St. Nicholas restored to life two boys who had been murdered by an avaricious inn-keeper and stowed in a tub of brine. St. Nicholas saw the crime in a vision and, hastening to the scene, accused the landlord of his horrible deed. Then he prayed that the children should be restored to life. No sooner was his prayer ended than the boys sprang out of the tub and cast themselves at the saint's feet in gratitude. In the Bodleian Library at Oxford you may see a fine illuminated manuscript showing St. Nicholas in ecclesiastical robes, holding a crozier in his left hand, while his right hand is extended in benediction to the boys as they rise from the tub of brine.

No wonder that St. Nicholas became the patron saint of children, that the eve of his feast day, December 6, was celebrated in nearly every country in Europe; and that the festival, moved onwards by three weeks, is honoured each Christmas, especially among English-speaking people. In China Santa Claus appears as a ten trader, and goes round the villages carrying his present for the children in two flat trays slung across his shoulder on a bamboo.

We in England know Santa Claus (as we may henceforth call him) as a rosy-cheeked old gentleman with kind blue eyes and a beard of snow. In Germany he has a heavy grey moustache, his eyes gleam behind a pair of spectacles, and on his head is a flat cap. Instead of a Christmas tree he carries round his neck a bagful of presents, which he distributes among the children as they lie sleeping. The gifts are awarded with discrimination, for in company with Santa Claus goes his knight Klabauter, who takes the naughty children and carries them off for punishment.

Santa Claus everywhere comes down the chimney. For many years the English Ambassador in Berlin used to entertain the little chimney sweeps of that city on Christmas Eve, in commemoration of the fact that the father of a former ambassador, when a lad, was stolen as a child and put to service to a master sweep, who compelled him to climb the flues. He was not rescued until he was sent to the very house from which he had been stolen, to sweep the chimney, and was there recognised.

In Austria there prevails the curious custom of young men impersonating Santa Claus and going from house to house to examine the children in their catechism and award them accordingly. As in some parts of Germany, as we have seen, awards and punishments go together. The Austrian Santa Claus gives a figure of himself to good children, but the naughty ones receive a krampus or demon, a toy imp which has a black face, red lips, a red tongue hanging out of his mouth, and a birch in his hand. Belgian children are made to rejoice by chocolate images of St. Nicholas, or the "Boy Bishop," as he is known. The patron saint of the little ones is represented in robes and mitre, and very often he is shown in company with the little victims of the inn-keeper whom he raised to life. Whatever the other presents of Santa Claus may be, he must never for-

DAY BY DAY.

TRUST NOT HIM THAT SEEMS A SAINT.—Fuller.

Mr. M. Manuk will speak on "Christian Mysticism" at the usual weekly lecture of the Theosophical Society, to-day at 6 p.m.

Thirteen further cases of small-pox (twelve from Kowloon) were notified yesterday, as well as four cases of typhoid. All were Chinese.

It is understood that the S.S. Kong Ning will resume service to Wuchow in the early part of next week on completion of annual overhaul and rest.

The Naval Ordnance Officer announces that a quantity of condemned cordite will be burnt at Stonecutters Rifle Range during to-morrow forenoon.

The S.S. Cassum, ex H.M.S. Woodlark is still at Shamshui, but negotiations are now in progress for her commencing on the West River run. No date is given for the maiden trip.

H.M.S. Stormcloud left Nanking and H.M.S. Sterling left Wuhu on Wednesday for Shanghai, en route to Hongkong. H.M.S. Foxglove has arrived at Chinwangtao from Chefoo.

The Harbour Office reports for the 24 hours ended 9 a.m. this morning gave 13 arrivals and 14 departures, British holding top place with five and seven, leaving 67 vessels in port, British 31.

A Notice to Mariners issued by the Harbour Office states:—Shipowners and masters are notified that a new scale of survey fees will be published in the Government Gazette dated December 21.

At the Marine Court this morning before Commr. J. B. Newill, D.S.O., R.N., Chan Lok, master of a cargo junk, charged with mooring his craft in the entrance to Yumati Typhoon Shelter and causing an obstruction, was fined \$10.

get to put a chocolate bishop in the stocking of the Belgian child. St. Nicholas is said to be the only saint who survived the Reformation in Holland, and he is still immensely popular there, alike among the children and among their warm-hearted parents. Curiously, the festival is still celebrated on its old date, December 6. On the eve of that day Santa Claus, clad in his familiar robes, enters and holds a court of enquiry into the children's behaviour in family life. To the good ones he promises a present by the following morning if they will leave their shoes on the hearthstone in the parlour. The children also leave hay, carrots, and water for the team of gallant white horses which he has to use in order that he may get over the vast spaces of the earth in a single night.

But, you will ask, how did Santa Claus, whose feast day in December 6, come to be associated with Christmas, nineteen days later, as he invariably is in England and America? We in England forgot St. Nicholas when the Reformation occurred, but our good friends the Dutch remembered him, and when some of them settled in America, in what was then New Amsterdam, and is now New York, they took the old customs of December 6 with them, and gave their little children presents in the name of Santa Claus, as they had been wont to receive them in the days of their own childhood. But it was a far cry from December 6 to Christmas Day, December 25, and many a Dutch settler, not too well off in those hard pioneer days, estimated the weight of his purse as he contemplated the two festivals. Then someone had a brain-wave. Why not combine the two? This was done, and henceforward there was only one festival where formerly there were a couple.

But the single festival is a joyous one. A favourite poem across the water tells how a "miniature sleigh and a tiny reindeer" suddenly appeared on the night before Christmas, driven by St. Nicholas, who slipped down the chimney into the room where the children lay sleeping. He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, and filled all the stockings—then turned with a jerk, and laying his finger aside of his nose, and giving a nod, up the chimney, he rose, and sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, and away they all flew like the down of a thistle. Old customs die hard, it is said, but they do die, and in a progressive country like America it is not surprising to find Santa Claus discarding his sleigh and reindeer in favour of an aeroplane. Some day, perhaps, we shall find the old gentleman staying at home by the fire and despatching his gifts by wireless!

The Very Idea!

The Rev. Theodore Phillips, president of the Royal Astronomical Society, speaking at the Royal Institute of Great Britain, described Mars as the planet of romance, "because," he said, "there have been more interesting things written, reported, and attemed in connexion with Mars than with any other planet."

"But," he added, "Venus is the planet which has given us astronomers from Herschel onwards, the greatest disappointment, for Venus is a lady who is very shy and coy. Her face is unfortunately very heavily veiled, so that, much as we would like to, it is impossible for us to view the beauty of her features. Nevertheless, we know quite a lot about her, and she might well be described as the earth's twin sister."

Mr. Phillips showed a film of Jupiter, depicting the tremendous disturbances taking place there. "They seem to suggest," he said, "that Jupiter has been grossly misbehaving himself."

While visiting America, a prominent clergyman met a charming young lady, who introduced him to her mother. The mother had been recently married for a second time, and immediately after the introduction said:—"You noticed my name is not the same as my daughter's name, but please don't take me for a divorcee. Thank goodness, my first husband died."

"If my wife would give up stout and cigarettes she would be a different woman."—An elderly man at North London.

Witness at Kingston-on-Thames: I was away at the time I came here.

Mansfield Woman: I dropped into a chair, but there was no chair there!

"I have had 16 children and the family income has never been more than £3 a week. To-day it is a great deal less."—A woman at Willesden.

A Lambeth witness taking the oath: The verdict I shall give the Court.

[School children at Limsfield have formed an association called the Pug-Pups (Pick-up-glass; Pick-up-paper) to keep the Common tidy.]

The dear little children of Limsfield in Surrey,

Whom all country lovers will bless,

Have found that when motorists feed in a hurry

They leave a most horrible mess. Greasy paper is lavishly scattered around,

Empty tins, fruit and other, are frequently found,

And bottles when finished are smashed on the ground

With results you may easily guess.

So the kind little Pug-Pups, instead of just sighing

And shaking their heads at the sight, Are working like niggers and gallantly trying

To put matters more or less right.

They are clearing the common each week with a will

When the Piglies have drunk and have eaten their fill

(Though it may be a common they're commoner still)

And have motored off home for the night.

"Yes, really, we think it's a capital notion."

I fancy the Piglies will say. It teaches the young generation devotion;

Far better to work than to play. We hope that the excellent movement will grow;

It's so jolly to think that wherever we go

And however much mess we may make we shall know

That the Pug-Pups will clear it away!"

Standing outside a public-house just after ten o'clock a woman asked a man who emerged if anybody had been thrown out near closing time.

"No!" was the reply.

"Ah, well! My husband has gone to the pictures after all," she said.

"The children need something new every week. You have no children, hence you cannot understand."

"I understand, old chap; I have an automobile."

From Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co. we have received a copy of the P. and O. and British India diary, as well as a striking wall calendar. The latter gives a scene on the Thames and Grays, showing the new P. and O. turbo-electric s.s. Viceroy of India.

Passengers arriving to-day on the Empress of Asia included Sir Frederick and Lady White, Mr. and Mrs. A. Cameron, Mr. I. H. Gear, Capt. and Mrs. E. I. M. Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Beale, and Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Potts.

PRIZEGIVING AT KOWLOON.

JUNIOR BRITISH SCHOOL FUNCTION.

TRANSFER SHORTLY.

The children of Kowloon Junior British School gave a very creditable display this morning, when the annual distribution of prizes was held in the grounds of the school at Gun Club Hill. Mrs. R. M. Dyer gave away the prizes at the end of the entertainment.

Miss M. Cooper, B.A., the Head Mistress was congratulated by Mr. A. E. Wood, Director of Education, on the excellent performance given by the children. About fifty took part in a lengthy programme consisting of songs, recitations, dances and plays.

There was a large gathering of friends and supporters of the school present at the function. The premises were fully decorated and the prize distribution together with the rest of the programme was carried out in the open air, in a compound used by the children as a playground.

The Rev. J. Horace Johnston, and Mr. E. Ralphs, Inspector of Schools, were among those present.

Head Mistress's Report.

The Head Mistress's report was as follows:

Attendance.—The attendance has been well maintained throughout the year. Last year our average attendance was 83 and this year it is 84. The highest recorded attendance was 99.

Staff.—Miss Grant returned from leave in January, and Mrs. Langley was transferred to King's College. In the same month, Miss Dyer, who had also been on leave, resumed work here in place of Miss Jacques. Miss George came on a holiday in March. Mrs. Lyle went home in April, and Mrs. Hooper took over her work in Class 9. Mrs. Rundle returned to England in June and Mrs. Heath was appointed to Class 10. Mrs. Hooper resigned in September and Mrs. Johnston took her place in Class 9.

Health.—We had several cases of whooping cough early in the year; otherwise, the general health was good. Dr. Stancill, the Acting Medical Officer for Schools, inspected the new entrants and the "special" cases in March. Her report was satisfactory, except that a number of children were found to have defective teeth. The parents were notified when a visit to the doctor or dentist was considered necessary. Notwithstanding, on re-inspection it was found that only a few had their teeth attended to.

Inspections.—Mr. Ralphs and Mr. Sutherland visited us during the year and inspected the work done in the school.

School Buildings.—The P.W.D. finished the additional lavatory accommodation and put up two extra wash-hand basins in the play-ground. The premises of this school, as you are no doubt aware, are Military property and, owing to the requirements of the Military Authorities, the Hongkong Government lease of them will terminate at the end of January, 1929. Excellent arrangements are in hand for the transfer of the Kowloon Junior School to "Parkside" as from February 1st, and I think it will be found that we shall not be the losers by this move.

Examinations.—The results of the Royal Drawing Society's examination held in June last are as follows:—Division I, three entered, three passed with honours; Preparatory Division, sixteen entered, sixteen passed, fourteen with honours. Eleven pupils have qualified to pass on to the Central British School on the results of the annual examination held this month.

General.—Again we must thank the Kowloon Dock Company for the use of flags, and Mr. Jenner for the trouble he has taken in arranging them so effectively. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Johnston for the use of chairs and to Mrs. Tobin and Mrs. Goldenberg for donations of prizes. In conclusion, I cannot express sufficiently my gratitude to the staff for the efficient work they have done during the year, and for their unswerving loyalty and support.

Prize List.

Class 7.—1st girl and form scholarship, Alice Black; 1st boy, Harry Murgatroyd; general progress, Edna Phillips, Victor Bird and Ian Kempton; drawing prizes, Harry Murgatroyd and Robert Provan; special prize for attendance, Alice Black.

Class 8.—1st girl, Muriel McCaw; 1st boy and form scholarship, Peter Clark; general progress, Betty Crouch; general progress and drawing, Cedric Saltor and William Macfarlane; neatness and accuracy, Peter Clark; industry and good conduct, Nessie Gillespie.

NO NEW DECISIONS AT LUGANO.

SIR AUSTEN EXPLAINS THE NATURE OF TALKS.

NO FURTHER POLEMICS

London, Dec. 19. Sir Austen Chamberlain was invited to the House of Commons to-day to give details of what transpired in the course of his conversations with Dr. Stresemann and M. Briand at Lugano recently, as regards reparations and the evacuation of the Rhineland.

The Foreign Secretary said he had little to add to the communication issued at Lugano after the conversations had closed. This was the first occasion on which the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France and Germany had met since March last and it afforded them an opportunity for the removal of some misconceptions and for a friendly interchange of views such as had become customary whenever they met.

No new decisions were either taken or sought.

The reparations question was being dealt with through ordinary channels and they did not attempt to duplicate negotiations on a subject which centred in Paris. They agreed that the first thing to do was to secure the appointment of the committee of experts and they hoped that the committee might get to work early in the New Year.

Their discussion of other problems dealt with in the resolution came to by the six Powers at Geneva in September was purely exploratory and declaratory in character, but he derived from it an impression that circumstances were favourable to a solution if further polemics were avoided while the experts were deliberating.

In the public interest, he declined to answer further questions about evacuation. Answering an earlier question about the Rhineland, Sir Austen directed attention to the last paragraph of the Lugano communiqué which read as follows: "We are determined to do everything in our power to arrive as soon as possible at a final settlement of matters arising out of the war and thus assure on a basis of mutual confidence the happy development of relations between our respective countries."

Reuter and British Wireless.

AN "EMPEROR'S ESTATE." Paris, Nov. 21. Memories of Jacques Lebaudy, the so-called "Emperor of the Sahara," were evoked by the judgment of the Paris Court of Appeal yesterday afternoon confirming the claim to his estate of his brother and sister, Robert Lebaudy and the Comtesse de Fels, against that of Madame Sudreau, formerly Mlle. Marguerite Desheres, who was styled his Empress. The property is valued at 100,000,000 francs (£800,000).

Lebaudy's "empire," which he started in 1903, lasted long enough to cause serious unrest among the Arab tribes, and the "Emperor" was removed by the French Government. He was shot, dead in Long Island, near New York, in January, 1919. Mlle. Desheres was acquitted of murder by the New York Court, and was later given judgment for Lebaudy's American property.

Class 9A.—1st girl, Hester Heath; 1st boy, Geoffrey Otter. Class 9B.—1st girl, Margaret Crookdale; 1st boy, Ronald Dickie; general progress, Desmond Kerr and Nan Hurst; drawing, Henry Phillips and Nora Kelly; drawing, Ronald Phillips. Class 10A.—1st girl, Doreen Brown; 1st boy, Jack Stokes; special prize for attendance, Helen Ingram; reading, George Knight; general progress, Cathleen Whelan, Francis Neville, Obwyn Greig, Edward Hurley, Murray Nish, Pat Winder, Vera Phillips, Mildred Marshall and William Bailey. Class 10B.—1st girl, Jean Hooper; 1st boy, John Silkstone; reading, David Roe; general progress, Francis Crabb, Maurice James, Alan Goldenberg, Ross Ogg, Robin Hall, Chrissie Lindsay, Winnie Short, Jean Nelson, Molly Tobin, David Gillespie and Dorothy McCaw.

Royal Drawing Society's Certificate.—Division I: Honours, Harry Murgatroyd, Alice Black and Douglas Kemp. Preparatory Division: Honours, Norman Keeley, Victor Bond, Edna Phillips, Dicky Branch, Peggy Tobin, Peter Green, Rosie Niah, Eric Otten, Yana Fleetwood, Robert Provan, Stanworth Adey, Bobbie Cocks and William Macfarlane; pass, Margaret Gow and Neville Howe.

Among the children who took part in entertaining the gathering were the following:—Class 9: Hester Heath, Peter Fleetwood, George Eustace, Geoffrey Otter, Tommy Sutter, Patsy Elkins, Hilda Reid, John Dalziel, Nan Hurst, Henry Phillips, Bertram Mitford, Margaret Crookdale, Barbara Davey.

Classes 7 and 8: Robert Provan, Harry Murgatroyd, Edgar Hogbin and Gama Fleetwood.

WOMAN'S CRUELTY TO A DOG.

ANIMAL THROWN OVER A VERANDAH.

MONSTROUS ACTION.

A monstrous act by a female Chinese residing at No. 53, Yin Chau Street, Shamshuipo, was described to Mr. E. W. Hamilton at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning when Sergeant Jessop charged the woman with allowing her dog to be abroad without a muzzle, keeping the animal without a license and cruelly by throwing the said dog over the verandah into the street.

To the first two charges, defendant pleaded guilty and was fined \$5 on each. She denied the count of cruelty.

In evidence, Sergeant Jessop said that he went to defendant's house on the first floor of No. 53, Yin Chau Street, to see if she had a license for her dog. Witness knocked at the door but received

About Hong Kong

Do you know that—

A Rear-Admiral who had been instrumental in tracking down pirates died in Hong-kong in 1849?

This was Rear-Admiral Sir Francis Collier, the Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies Station. He passed away at the residence of the Chief Justice, Mr. Hulme from apoplexy, at the age of 63 years. Only six days previously he had received a complimentary address from the merchants of the Colony on the energy which he had displayed in the extirpation of pirates in the China Seas.

He had been out on a carriage drive with the Chief Justice the evening before his sudden death.

no reply. After some little time, defendant whose voice witness recognised, enquired who was knocking.

Witness replied that it was a police officer. Defendant still refused to open the door. On looking through a crack witness saw defendant take a small dog to the verandah and throw it into the street. She then opened the door and declared that she had no dog.

A moment later, the animal crawled up the stairs with one of its legs badly injured.

In reply to his Worship witness said that he was sure it was defendant who threw the dog over the verandah.

The defendant denied that the animal was thrown over. She said that when the Sergeant knocked at the door, it got frightened, rushed about and accidentally fell over the verandah. In registering a conviction his Worship said: I have it on sworn testimony that you were actually seen to throw it over the verandah. I believe the sergeant's evidence. I think you are a liar. You are considerably worse than a liar; you are nothing but a beast. You are fined \$25, or one month's hard labour.



"What did you do with your evenings when you were a youngster, Pop?"
"I hung around stage doors."

EDUCATING ADULT TURKS.

COMPULSORY TUITION TO BE ENFORCED.

PUNISHED IF FAIL.

Constantinople, Dec. 19. An educational "mobilisation" of all Turkish citizens of both sexes, between the ages of 10 and 45 years, will commence in January.

The "conscripts" will be compelled to follow a course of tuition in the new Latin characters in "national" schools throughout the country.

Classes will be held, not only in schools, but in mosques, casinos, cafes, cinemas, etc.

The course will be of two months' duration for persons acquainted with Arabic characters and of four months for illiterates.

A short examination will be held at the end of the course, and persons failing to pass will be severely punished. The courses will be supervised by the police.—Reuter.

"FAZIL" AT THE QUEEN'S.

REMARKABLE FILM NOW SHOWING.

The conflict of Eastern and Western customs is absorbingly dealt with in "Fazil," the current attraction at the Queen's Theatre. In order to bring the contrast into sharp relief, the author of the original stage play has chosen, as the protagonists, an educated Arab chief and an unconventional Parisienne, and has set their love against the jagged edge of a so-called immutable law as "eternal as the sands of the desert."

Such an unconventional union must bristle with difficulties, as each of the two characters in turn experiments with the situation against the background of modernistic Paris and ancient Arabia. Then, defeated in these trials, a way out is sought which may or may not be "logical," as the synopsis of the story expresses it, but which, at any rate, provides an unusual ending to what in all respects is a most remarkable picture.

Charles Farrell, who has appeared in one other great picture, "The Seventh Heaven," plays the role of the Arab Sheikh with a high sense of the dramatic, while Greta Nissen as the *garconne* gives him excellent support.

"DO IT NOW."

In fining a Chinese \$2 for not providing his bicycle with a light Mr. E. W. Hamilton at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning advised defendant, who stated that he had intended to light his lamp, to adopt the motto of "Do it now."

Posted at Bath in December, 1908, a postcard has just been delivered in Dorking, the authorities making a penny surcharge.

For 25 years and manager to the Duke of Portland at Welbeck Abbey Mr. John Hewby, 72, has died.

HONGKONG LAW ON MEDICINE.

DO CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS INFRINGE IT?

ARGUMENT IN COURT.

The case against a Chinese herbalist, named Wong Sing-poon, who is charged with practising medicine for personal gain without being registered, was continued before Mr. R. E. Lindsell at the Central Police Court this morning.

The case hinges on the discovery of certain medical goods and utensils in the defendant's surgery, which the police regard as not being compatible with his calling as a native doctor.

For the defence, Mr. F. H. Loseby submitted that it was no offence under the Apothecaries and other Home Acts for anyone to practice as such, although the employment of "dentist," "veterinary surgeon" and other titles which denote the possession of qualifications was an offence in itself.

He criticised the attitude of the police in looking only for the things which incriminated and overlooking others which might be in favour of the defendant.

Non-Chinese Methods. Mr. Loseby said the most the police could make of the case was that his client was practising for gain as a Chinese doctor who used non-Chinese methods.

There followed a long dissertation on the status of other callings which Mr. Loseby regarded as being parallel to his case.

Mr. Lindsell, commenting on the different cases cited by Mr. Loseby, said that the chemist who attended to a customer seeking a cure for a cold, or the nurse who attended a patient, was not practising for gain beyond what he or she received as salary. Neither could they say the same of a policeman who gave first-aid or a member of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade who vaccinated people, because such aid was purely voluntary and disinterested.

Christian Scientists Liable?

On the point of the aim of the Ordinance which was to guard against the mischief that might be caused by interfering with the art of healing, Mr. Loseby further said that if the strict letter of the Ordinance was to be adhered to, then Christian Scientists and mesmerists were liable to be brought before the Court.

In pursuance of a point which he had previously put to Dr. Kirk who was called as an expert to define the differences between Chinese and Western medicine, Mr. Loseby said that if medicine was a science, then, like other sciences, it called for progressive research and study. A Chinese doctor, of an enquiring turn of mind and with the laudable object of keeping himself up-to-date, might be expected to do a little investigation on his own account and use such methods as he thought might help to make him proficient.

Chinese Science.

Mr. Lindsell said that it would appear from Dr. Kirk's evidence, that Chinese medical science, in the all-sufficient view it assumed, was confined to a certain textbook or materia medica, and the tendency of research work by a progressive-minded Chinese practitioner was turned the other way—to material and methods adopted, maybe, five thousands years back.

His Worship later said that he thought defendant had committed an offence which should be brought home against him. The presence of the syringe and poisons in his surgery was some corroboration that he was practising Western medicine.

However, his Worship proposed to adjourn his decision for a fuller consideration. The case was accordingly adjourned.

CHINESE AVIATION DEVELOPMENTS.

CANTON AIRMEN DUE IN HANKOW.

Shanghai, Dec. 19. The Canton seaplane "Pearl River" is expected to arrive at Hankow to-day, and the Hankow Divisional Political Council has instructed the Aviation Bureau at Hankow to make preparations for the welcome of the aviator.

The Wuhan Commercial Aviation Co. has sent engineers and officers to Changsha, Hangchow and Ichang for the purposes of establishing aviation sub-stations there. The Hankow Divisional Council has requested the Provincial Governments of Hupeh and Hunan to give all facilities and assistance to these engineers and officers.

The Council has also instructed the Municipal Council to prepare for the erection of an aviation ground at Hankow.—Nam Chung Pao.

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With

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WATERPROOF - FREE FROM ACID

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One Touch of
"NUGGET"
Makes the whole
Boot Shine

THE WORLD OF SPORT

NAVY LOSE BY SIX WICKETS.

SURPRISING FALL OF ARMY WICKETS TO-DAY.

WINNERS TOO STRONG.

The Army beat the Navy by six wickets in the two day cricket match which finished this morning on the Hongkong Cricket Club Ground, the Army being left with only 24 runs to get to win.

The Navy, having first knock, compiled the modest total of a hundred. No fewer than eight batsmen were caught out, Pelly and Baker being the only two to make anything of a stand. Between them they compiled over half the total score, extras accounting for a big percentage.

There was brighter cricket when the Army went to the wicket, only three batsmen failing to reach double figures and compiling the useful total of 204, before sending the Navy in again. Major Gaye was top scorer with 34.

There was brighter cricket when the Army went to the wicket, only three batsmen failing to reach double figures and compiling the useful total of 204, before sending the Navy in again. Major Gaye was top scorer with 34.

Score:

Navy. First Innings.

Pay. Cdr. E. C. Annabehn, c	0
Christian, b Wyatt	0
Lieut. F. C. N. Norris, c Gaye, b	0
Dobbie	0
Inst. Lt. Com. E. C. Abelson, b	0
Dobbie	0
Comdr. J. N. Pelly, c Miles, b	28
Christian	28
Comdr. F. C. Baker, c Goodall, b	23
Mott	23
Mr. C. Giles, c and b Wyatt	10
Lieut. W. Tate, c Goodall, b Wyatt	6
E. R. A. Sparrow, c Goodall, b	0
Wyatt	0
Pay. Lieut. H. S. P. Watch, c and b	0
Wyatt	0
Lieut. J. S. Dalison, c and b Chris-	1
tin	1
A. B. Large, not out	0
Extras	25
Total	100

Bowling Analysis.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Dobbie	8	2	14
Wyatt	2	3	24
Thorne	2	3	10
Christian	7	4	13
Musson	3	2	1
Miles	2	1	5
Mott	3	1	9

Army. First Innings.

Lt. Col. W. F. Christian, b Large	18
Capt. A. N. Evers, c and b Baker	11
Capt. N. A. Thorpe, b Wyatt	11
Major A. D. Gaye, b Baker	34
Pte. Goodall, b Dalison	2
Capt. A. G. Dobbie, c Norris, b	24
Annabehn	24
Lieut. A. H. Musson, b Dalison	18
Lt. Col. F. J. C. Wyatt, c and b	31
Baker	31
Pte. Whitfield, c Pelly, b Dalison	15
Bandman Mott, not out	8
Lt. Col. Miles, c Sparrow, b Baker	23
Extras	23
Total	204

Bowling Analysis.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Baker	16	5	43
Large	8	2	14
Watch	6	1	28
Dalison	6	4	13
Annabehn	3	1	9

Navy. Second Innings.

Pay. Cdr. Annabehn, c Miles, b	1
Wyatt	1
Lieut. Norris, c Evers, b Dobbie	1
Comdr. Pelly, c Goodall, b Dobbie	14
Lt. Com. Abelson, c Goodall, b	19
Christian	19
Comdr. Baker, b Mott	10
Lieut. Tate, c Whitfield, b Chris-	24
tin	24
Giles, b Dobbie	1
Pay. Lieut. H. S. P. Watch, c	16
Musson, b Miles	19
E. R. A. Sparrow, c Mott, b Miles	19
Lieut. J. S. Dalison, c Wyatt, b	4
Miles	4
A. B. Large, not out	0
Extras	9
Total	127

Bowling Analysis.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Dobbie	8	3	13
Wyatt	8	3	19
Christian	5	2	12
Miles	1	2	23
Mott	2	0	10
Evers	1	0	0
Musson	3	1	13

Army. Second Innings.

Pte. Whitfield, b Annabehn	1
Bandman Mott, b Annabehn	0
Pte. Goodall, c Norris, b Anna-	4
hehn	4
Lt. Col. Miles, b Large	0
Lieut. A. H. Musson, not out	16
Capt. N. A. Thorpe, not out	16
Extras	4
Total for 4 wickets	20

O. M. R. W.

Large	4	1	12
Annabehn	3	3	10

GOLF IN CANTON.

TUNG SHAN CHAMPIONSHIP.

Mr. A. T. Lay defeated Mr. J. Rodgers by 5 and 4 in the semi-final of the Tung Shan Championship on Tuesday afternoon over 18 holes on the Tungshan Recreation Club's course at Canton.

The final between Mr. A. T. Lay and Mr. J. C. H. Bonbright, will be played off on Sunday next over 36 holes.

WEST RIVER PATROL.

ANNUAL REGATTA ON WEST RIVER.

The West River Patrol held their annual regatta on Monday last at Mah Ning, on the West River. It was one of the most exciting regattas held by the flotilla in recent years. All the ships with the exception of H.M. Armed Launches Faulkner, Nessus and Onslaught had assembled at Mah Ning by Sunday evening. Monday was a beautiful day for the regatta and the events were carried through without a hitch, beginning at 9.45 a.m. and lasting until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

H.M.S. Seaweed seemed very confident of winning the Aggregate Cup, hold last year by H.M.S. Robin, but actually the trophy went to H.M.S. Tarantula, whilst H.M.S. Seaweed tied with H.M.S. Moorhen for second place. H.M.S. Robin, of course, went out of commission last year on the completion of 30 years' service on the West River.

Right up to the very last race, H.M.S. Tarantula and H.M.S. Moorhen tied for first place, but in the 11th race, "All-Comers," H.M.S. Tarantula secured a first and fifth, whereas H.M.S. Moorhen was unplaced with both entries.

The course for all events, except No. 11, was over half a mile. The No. 11 event was over 1 mile.

Points were allocated as follows:—1st, 5 points; 2nd, 4 points; 3rd, 3 points; 4th, 2 points; 5th, 1 point.

The Results.

The results were as follows:

Seamen's Skiff.—H.M.S. Seaweed, 1st (5 min. 15 sec.); Tarantula, 2nd; Moth, 3rd; Moorhen, 4th; Cleala, 5th.

Engine Room Sampan.—H.M.S. Moorhen, 1st (5 min. 43/5 sec.); Tarantula, 2nd; Seaweed, 3rd; Cleala, 4th; Moth, 5th.

Officers' Skiff.—H.M.S. Seaweed, Lieutenant-Commander Poland and Lieutenant Hill-Walker 1st (5 min. 32 sec.); Moth, 2nd; Tarantula, 3rd; Cleala, 4th. Moorhen did not compete, having only one officer, but was allowed one point.

Racing Sampan.—H.M.S. Moorhen, 1st (5 min. 11 3/5 sec.); Cleala, 2nd; Seaweed, 3rd; Tarantula, 4th; Moth, 5th.

Chinese Skiff.—H.M.S. Cleala, 1st (5 min. 8 sec.); Moorhen, 2nd; Tarantula, 3rd; Moth, 4th; Seaweed, 5th.

H.M.S. Moorhen actually passed the winning post first in this event, but was disqualified to second place for bad steering.

Engine Room Skiff.—H.M.S. Tarantula, 1st (4 min. 55 sec.); Moth, 2nd; Seaweed, 3rd; Moorhen, 4th; Cleala, 5th.

Seamen's Sampan.—H.M.S. Seaweed, 1st (5 min. 0 1/5 sec.); Moorhen, 2nd; Tarantula, 3rd; Cleala, 4th; Moth, 5th.

Chief Petty-Officers' and Petty-Officers' Skiff.—H.M.S. Moorhen, 1st (5 min. 23 sec.); Tarantula, 2nd; Seaweed, 3rd; Moth, 4th; Cleala, 5th.

Chinese Sampan.—H.M.S. Cleala, 1st (5 min. 10 sec.); Tarantula, 2nd; Moorhen, 3rd; Moth, 4th; Seaweed, 5th.

Sculls (No Cox).—H.M.S. Moorhen, 1st (6 min. 20 sec.); Tarantula, 2nd; Seaweed, 3rd; Moth, 4th; Cleala, 5th.

All-Comers (1 mile).—H.M.S. Tarantula 1st & 5th (9 min. 20 sec.); Seaweed, 2nd; Moth, 3rd; Cleala, 4th; Moorhen, unplaced.

The final results are therefore

1. H.M.S. Tarantula, 42 points.
2. H.M.S. Moorhen and H.M.S. Seaweed, 36 points each.
3. H.M.S. Cleala, 20 points.
4. H.M.S. Moth, 25 points.—Our Own Correspondent.

LOCAL FOOTBALL.

KOWLOON TEAMS.

The following will represent the Kowloon 1st XI v. K.O.S.B. on Kowloon Football Club Ground on Saturday, kick off at 4 o'clock:—Angus, Robson, Pile, Hatley, McKelvie, Easterbrook, Clemo, Spary, Miles, Hayes and Baldwin. Reserve:—Davies.

The following will represent the Kowloon 2nd XI v. R.A. on Chatham Road Ground on Saturday, kick off at 2.30 o'clock:—Angus, Nicholls, Hast, Moore, Dunnett, Blacklock, Hannan, White, Moss, King and Eastman. Reserves:—Seldon and Waddington.

The University defeated the Y.M.C. A. "A" in an interesting hockey match at King's Park by six clear goals.

A man who appeared at Lambeth Police Court recently was said to have been in receipt of outdoor relief for seven years.

SHAMEEN LAWN TENNIS.

FINALS OF THE LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP.

Miss M. A. Hogg defeated Mrs. C. E. Watson by 6/7, 6/3, 6/4 in the finals of the ladies' championship of the Shameen Lawn Tennis Club. Miss Hogg played a beautiful game and her victory over Mrs. Watson came in the nature of a surprise to most people as the latter has been the undisputed champion of Shameen for several years.

As was expected, the first set went to Mrs. Watson, but after a while she seemed to tire and Miss Hogg took the next two sets by steady perseverance, with occasional strokes of great brilliancy.

Men's Championship.

In the semi-finals of the Men's Championship, C. E. Watson obtained a walk over from J. J. Marcell who was obliged to scratch owing to illness, and A. T. Lay defeated F. E. W. Lamport 6/2, 7/5, 4/6, 6/4.

Mixed Doubles Handicap.

The following have reached the semi-finals in the Mixed Doubles Handicap:

Mrs. J. F. Brennan and Mr. M. A. Annett (-30) by defeating Mr. and Mrs. R. Wolcott (-30) 6/1, 6/4.

Mr. and Mrs. Brennwald (-430) by defeating Miss M. A. Hogg and Captain G. A. Clements (-230) 5/7, 6/4, 6/4.

Mrs. C. E. Watson and Mr. F. Gandossi (-30) by defeating Miss Jenkins and Mr. J. Krabbe (-215) 6/2, 8/6.

Miss P. Kemble and Mr. J. F. Brennan (-30) by defeating Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Gilman (Scratch) 6/1, 6/3.—Our Own Correspondent.

LOCAL CRICKET.

VARSITY TEAM TO MEET THE I. R. C.

The following will represent the Varsity 2nd XI in a League match, against the I. R. C. on Saturday, at 2 p.m. sharp at Sookunpo.—F. Hipkote (Capt.), M. B. Osman, A. Baker, A. Chan Pook, A. B. Sullivan, H. T. Barma, G. E. Yeoh, F. Fernando, D. Rai, C. Candiah, H. E. Adams.

H.K.C.C. Teams.

The H.K.C.C. team for the League match against the C.R.C. on the C.R.C. ground on Saturday, at 2 p.m., will be:

B. R. Hancock (Capt.), J. L. Bonnar, A. C. J. Bowker, Capt. A. G. Dobbie, A. W. Hayward, C. Moor, H. Owen Hughes, T. E. Pearce, H. V. Parker, Rev. E. K. Quick, and C. D. Wales.

The H.K.C.C. second eleven against the K.C.C. second eleven on the H.K.C.C. ground on Saturday, at 2 p.m., will be:

E. J. R. Mitchell (Capt.), H. J. Armstrong, J. L. Christie, G. E. Divett, E. R. Duckitt, A. H. Evers, C. P. James, G. P. Lamport, A. Reid, W. K. Tait, E. R. West.

"THE MAGIC FLAME."

OUTSTANDING FILM AT WORLD.

Two of the most popular players of the screen, Ronald Colman, the handsome hero of "Beau Geste," and Vilma Banky, the beautiful Hungarian actress, are to be seen in "The Magic Flame," the remarkable film which comes to the World Theatre to-day as the feature attraction until Saturday. Ronald Colman plays two roles in the film, that of a clown and that of a count. Vilma Banky is an aerial artist for whom Colman's two characters love and struggle.

The action of the story takes place in a Mediterranean country, Baretta's circus furnishing the background against which Vilma Banky and Ronald Colman make love. It is when Colman, the clown, has triumphed over Colman, the count, that the locale is switched to the Royal Court, with the clown accepted on all hands as the King of Blyria. When Vilma Banky arrives at the court to avenge the murder of her lover, the clown, she does not suspect the true identity of the monarch, and it is with the disentanglement of this tene situation that the plot thereafter is concerned.

H.M.S. Hermes arrived in Hongkong from Manila shortly before six o'clock yesterday, Bluebell arriving from Takau the same day. The Kent, flagship of the China Squadron, sailed in the afternoon for Sandakan.

A Harbour Notification from Shanghai dated December 14 announces that Hongkong and Canton are regarded as smallpox infected ports and Port Medical Regulations will be enforced in respect of vessels arriving.

VEHICULAR FERRY.

(Continued from Page 1.)

and are delivered into godowns at Kowloon Point, a week's free storage, being allowed by the Godown Co. A total amount of such goods in excess of 10 tons would appear to be transported across the harbour daily by various merchants in Hongkong. Some of the merchants are of the opinion that a vehicular ferry would be a great boon, and more economical facilities for trans-shipment of goods, and enabling goods to be collected from the godowns on the return trip, thus ensuring economy of transport with less risk of pilferage and/or damage to goods.

Cattle and Pigs.

Little farm produce except vegetables—about 100 piculs per day—some pigs and cattle cross from the Kowloon side. Generally speaking, cattle and pigs for slaughter purposes, and the greater portion of market produce, i.e. fruit, chickens, etc., are imported by river or coaster steamer and disembarked on the Hongkong side; the bulk of fish is also landed on this side of the harbour.

A quantity of market produce and fish pass from Hongkong to markets in Kowloon, the amount cannot be definitely ascertained but is in excess of 25 tons per day, the present method of land transport is by coolie, water transport being effected by passenger ferry, motor boat or other small craft. These commodities, except live stock, could be made up in satisfactory loads for vehicular transport. Whilst the greater portion of this traffic is one way, viz. from Hongkong to Kowloon, it is probable that a transport company could undertake the transport of little additional expense over present methods, and thus relieve to a considerable extent, congestion on some portions of the harbour front and in the neighbourhood of the markets.

Regarding cattle and swine, the annual numbers transported across the harbour are approximately as follows:—Cattle, 6,500 and swine 24,000.

It is considered that the vehicular ferry deal with this traffic in the early morning and offer better facilities than exist at present.

Coal Transport.

Due to the lack of satisfactory accommodation in Hongkong, coal yards are situated in Kowloon. At present, advantage is taken of the Praya East. Reclamation for the storage of coal brought from Kowloon, when the facilities of the Reclamation are no longer available, unless a berth is provided on the Hongkong side for the reception of coal from junks or lighters, the handling of this commodity will cause obstruction of the Praya frontage.

An average amount of about 10 tons of coal is delivered daily to householders in Hongkong. The cost of distribution of coal by present methods is less than via a vehicular ferry unless the ferry charges were negligible.

Investigations would indicate that firms requiring motor transport to transact their business on both sides of the harbour, are now obliged to consider the question of transport on each side independently; and to provide satisfactory transport at rush periods, it is necessary to provide more lorries than the business needs. A vehicular ferry would provide facilities for lorries of the same firm working in co-operation, thus vehicles in Kowloon could be despatched to Hongkong to assist in pressure of work and vice versa.

Building contractors are of the opinion that whilst a vehicular ferry would provide better facilities for the transport of consignments of cement during inclement weather and provide for a more intensive use of their motor lorries, for transport generally, the installation would not be as economical as present methods, where the cross harbour transport of building materials is effected by junks or lighters which come alongside the Praya roadway, the materials being transported to destination by coolies and/or lorries.

The discharge of building materials on the roadway, however, causes obstruction to traffic and is undesirable. The construction of piers to provide for the satisfactory handling of building and other materials brought from Kowloon would probably result in transport by the use of these facilities costing as much as by a vehicular ferry.

Uses of Service.

Part of the first fighting appliances of the Colony are located in Hongkong, the remainder in Kowloon. A vehicular ferry would provide facilities for utilizing almost the full resources of the Fire Brigade on either side of the Harbour.

A vehicular ferry would facilitate the transport of prisoners

and hospital cases between the Island and mainland. An average of about 50 stretcher cases per month are transported across the harbour. The present method of handling cross harbour patients is very unsatisfactory and would be eliminated by a vehicular ferry. It is estimated that the Fire Brigade, Police and Motor Ambulances between them would do at least six to a dozen trips each way daily.

The proposed ferry installation would be of some service to the Post Office and the Imports and Exports Department.

There are about 1,800 private and public motor cars and cycles in the Colony. The general opinion appears to be that these vehicles would be transported across the harbour in much greater numbers, if improved facilities were provided at a passage rate attractive to the owners of the vehicles.

Not Justified.

The investigations which have been made would indicate that better facilities for cross harbour transport are very desirable; also that the number of vehicles crossing by ferry would probably not exceed a daily average of 150, and might be considerably less than this figure if the fare was much in excess of \$1 per trip. It would therefore appear that at the present time, a vehicular ferry would be unable to earn sufficient return to justify the cost of installation.

Each vehicular ferry provides accommodation for 20 five-seater cars. This is probably in excess of the requirements of a frequent service for a number of years. Some economy might be effected in capital outlay by the construction of smaller boats at a reduced expenditure, say ferry boats to carry 12 motor cars and/or lorries at a cost of about \$180,000 each. Even by the application of such small economies, it would appear that this service would have to look to the passenger trade for income to ensure financial success.

The V.R.C. Site is not conveniently situated to attract a large passenger trade. It is possible, therefore that a vehicular ferry between the V.R.C. and Jordan Road would not have sufficient support from passenger receipts.

The Jubilee Street Scheme.

The expense of installing a service between Jordan Road and V.R.C. costs practically the same as between Jordan Road and Jubilee Street. Jubilee Street is in a more congested district than the V.R.C., however, with the additional space made available by the proposed reclamation, it is anticipated that there would be no difficulty in satisfactorily regulating traffic at Jubilee Street in accordance with the arrows shown on plan 'D'. The berth at Jordan Road would be a convenient terminus for the Yaumati Ferry. It would therefore appear that the vehicular ferry service might replace the existing service between Jubilee Street and Yaumati and thus undertake the transport of the large passenger trade on the latter route. The vehicular ferry piers would be suitable for the accommodation of double ended passenger ferry boats similar to the type at present used on the service between Jubilee Street and Yaumati. Such boats might therefore make alternate trips on the vehicular ferry route, and thus provide a frequent service to meet the requirements of the passenger traffic.

Estimated Cost.

Estimated cost of establishing a vehicular ferry service between Jordan Road and Jubilee Street, the proposed ferry boats being reduced to provide accommodation for 12 five-seater cars only:

Jordan Road, Kowloon.—Reclamation, Ferry piers and offices. \$520,000.

Jubilee Street, Hongkong.—Reclamation, Ferry piers, and offices (estimate includes \$80,000 for offices). \$655,000.

Ferry Boats.—3 Nos. vehicular & passenger ferry boats, \$540,000.

Total cost of piers, ferry boats, etc., \$1,715,000.

Messrs. Cooche, Fitzmaurice, Wilson & Mitchell—Harbour Development Consulting Engineers.—In their report dated 25th November, 1924, state:—"We have given consideration to the provision of better facilities for traffic between Hongkong and the mainland, particularly for vehicular traffic. The only feasible method without great expenditure of money is the provision of ferry boats. There are numbers of these in existence at the present time. Some of the most important are those crossing the Thames, the Mersey, the Clyde, New York Harbour, and San Francisco Harbour. We consider the cross traffic between Hongkong and Kowloon is growing sufficiently to warrant the provision by the Government of a good vehicular and passenger ferry service."



TO-DAY ONLY

GENE STRATTON-PORTER'S "THE MAGIC GARDEN"

with
MARGARET MORRIS
and
RAYMOND KEANE

A Marvellous Story of a
love that smashed through
all obstacles to attain
its shining goal!

MAJESTIC THEATRE

Nathan Road, Kowloon
at 6.20 p.m. & 9.15 p.m.
(with music)

Price: Dress Circle: 60 cts.
Stalls: 40 cts. & 20 cts.

at 2.30 p.m. & 7.15 p.m.
Chinese Picture

"SPIDER"

LOCAL YACHTING.

ARMY BEAT THE NAVY IN CLOSE CONTEST.

The Army beat the Navy at yacht-
ing yesterday, owing to a big lead in
the morning. In the afternoon the
crowd exchanged boats, and a very
close contest followed, with the Navy
one point ahead, but six points down
on the day. The points were scored
as follows:

Morning Race.			
Course.	Boat	(P)	
Cust Rock	Boat (S)	Channel	
Rock (S)	start 11.15 a.m.		
Navy	No.	Points.	
Y1	4	11	
Y2	8	7	
Y3	6	10	
Y4	3	12	
Y5	9	6	
G2	12	8	
G3	D.N.F.	—	
		49	

Afternoon Race.			
Course.	Boat	(P)	
Kowloon Rock (S)	Channel	Rock	
(S), Cust Rock Buoy (P)	start 3.15 p.m.		
Navy	No.	Points.	
Y1	8	9	
Y2	2	15	
Y3	6	11	
Y4	4	13	
Y5	12	5	
G1	14	3	
G2	10	1	
G3	5	12	
		60	

ROWING RACES.

INTERNATIONAL MEETING AT YACHT CLUB.

A mid-season meeting of the row-
ing section of the Yacht Club is to
be held on Saturday when there will be,
for the first time in many years, in-
ternational races for fours and pairs.
There will also be a scratch race for
fours, the crews of which will be
chosen in such a way as to eliminate
the possibility of any crew having by
chance rowed together at some pre-
vious date; the distance of this race
will be only a half mile as it follows
the anticipated hard fought interna-
tional races.

These are three crews in training
representing Scotland, England and
Germany. Great disappointment was
caused by the withdrawal of the
Scandinavian crew about which so
much was heard and expected, through
the recent illness of the stroke, H.
Dreyer.

Of the three crews now in training
the Germans are alone showing good
form and are justly confident of
success. The least that can be said
is that they deserve success having
been in serious training for some
considerable time. The Scottish
crew is rapidly settling down and
there is some semblance of rhythm in
the boat now; if they can keep it
up there is a certainty of a hard
fought race. The English crew is
another disappointment for they have
only just started serious training,
their first appearance as a four being
on Tuesday. It is regretted that
those who assumed charge of this
crew did not take their responsibilities
more seriously for they have
excellent material to work on.
This mid-season meeting is a de-
finite attempt on the part of the
Rowing Committee of the Yacht Club
to revive the interest in rowing
which has been flagging for some
time. It is a great pity that the
V.R.C. with their large membership
are not able to raise sufficient en-
thusiasm to take part in any of the
regattas given by both the Canton
Rowing Club and the Yacht Club,
where their appearance would un-
doubtedly be more than welcome.
Inter-club rivalry is badly needed to
bring back rowing to the popularity
it enjoyed a few years ago.

VALLEY GOLF.

J. H. STEWART QUALIFIES FOR ADAMSON CUP.

J. H. Stewart qualified for the
Adamson Cup at Happy Valley with
a card of 99-24=76. Other scores
were: F. E. Booker, 89-10=79; G.
H. McLeod, 96-14=82; J. Stewart
99-16=84.
The Adamson Cup, 1929, will be
played for on the first Friday in each
month and the following eleven days
except in March and August when the
competition will start on the second
Friday in the month.

The fixtures at Fanling for 1929
include New Year meeting, 1st Dec.
1928 to Jan. 2; Junior Championship
qualifying round 6th Jan.; Captain's
Cup 6th and 6th Jan.

LOCAL FOOTBALL.

RESULTS OF MATCHES IN THE MID-WEEK LEAGUE.

Three matches were played in the
Mid-Week League yesterday.

Results at a glance:
Athletic 3 Ewo Chinese 0
South China 2 P. W. D. Chinese 0
Lam Long Wan 6 Hung Kui School 0

Lam Long Wan v Hung Kui School.

This game was played on the Ath-
letic ground at Happy Valley, and
ended in a win for Lam Long Wan
by the margin of six clear goals.
The School made a poor show before
a bustling side. Yeung Po scored
early from a corner kick. Within a
minute the ball was again in the net,
Chan Yui-kwai scoring with a cross
shot. Yeung Po and Ho Kar-kwon
added goals for Lam Long Wan before
the interval.

Crossing over with a lead of four
goals, Lam Long Wan continued to
have most of the game and Chan
Yui-kwai and Lo Chi-yin scored.
Result.—Lam Long Wan 6, Hung Kui
School 0.

Athletic v Ewo.
This game was played on St.
Joseph's ground, and ended in a win
for the Athletic by three clear goals.
Although Ewo failed to score they
gave the Athletic a good game, and
were not three goals inferior to the
League leaders.

The Athletic attacked from the
kick-off, and after a scramble in the
goal area, Leung Tat-wing opened the
score. Ewo then took up the attack
and for a time pressed the Athletic
defence, being unlucky in not making
the scores equal, the ball striking the
post and rebounding behind. Half-
time, Athletic 1, Ewo 0.

The second half opened with the
Athletic attacking, and goals by Kit
Sang and Leung Tat-wing gave a
three points victory.

South China v P. W. D.

This game was played at Caroline
Hill and ended in a win for South
China by two clear goals. The first
half was goalless, each side giving
a good show in defence.
Early in the second half, Yau Ting-
wah gave South China the lead, and
before the final whistle Lo Chai-wan
scored again for them. Result.—
South China 2, P. W. D. 0.

LEAGUE TABLE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Athletic	10	8	1	1	17
South China	9	6	1	2	13
Lam Long Wan	10	5	2	3	12
P. W. D. Chinese	10	3	4	3	9
Ewo Chinese	10	3	2	5	8
Police	9	3	1	6	7
Hung Kui School	9	1	0	8	2

Club v Small Units.

The following players have been
selected to represent the Hongkong
Football Club against the Small
Units on the Club ground on Satur-
day at 4 p.m.—Edwards; Holt;
Bishop; McBride; Stewart; Walling-
ton; Watson; Alexander; Goldman;
Scott; Trambitzky. Reserves: Reid
and Buchanan.

LETTER GOLF.

You don't see a HALL TREE as
often as you used to, but that
shouldn't make to-day's puzzle any
harder. Par is seven.

H	A	L	L
T	R	E	E

1—The idea of letter golf, is to
change one word to another and
do it in par, a given number of
strokes. Thus to change COW to
HEN, in three strokes, COW,
HEN, HEN HEN.

2—You can change only one
letter at a time.

3—You must have a complete
word, of common usage, for each
jump. Slang words and abbrevia-
tions don't count.

4—The order of letters cannot be
changed.

One solution is printed on an-
other page.

SNOOKER FINAL.

A. J. OSMUND WINS LOCAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

In the final of the Snooker
Championship at the Palace Hotel last
night, A. J. Osmund easily obtained
the title beating F. E. Silva by 462 to
259.

The contest was over seven frames,
Osmund's being 69, 64, 89, 60, 45, 71
and 60; and Silva's 80, 25, 57, 84, 33,
88, and 42. The winner had the
highest break of the match—a 27.

On the conclusion, Mrs. J. H.
Osberry presented the prizes, as
follows:

1. A. J. Osmund (championship).

2. F. E. Silva (runner-up).

3. H. de Luz.

A prize for the highest break of the
contest went to Osmund, who made 81
earlier in the competition.

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CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR ANNOUNCEMENTS.

HONGKONG HOTEL

MONDAY, 24th December 1928. ... Christmas Eve Special Dinner Dance (8 p.m. to 12 midnight)
 WEDNESDAY, 26th December 1928. ... Boxing Night Carnival (8 p.m. to 1 a.m.)
 MONDAY, 31st December 1928. ... New Year's Eve Special Dinner Dance (8 p.m. to 12 midnight)

REPULSE BAY HOTEL

MONDAY, 24th December 1928. ... Christmas Eve Carnival (8.30 p.m. to 1 a.m.)
 MONDAY, 31st December 1928. ... New Year's Eve Carnival (8.30 p.m. to 1 a.m.)
 TUESDAY, 1st January 1929. ... Special Tiffin (Orchestra 1 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.)
 Tea Dance ... (4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.)

MOTOR COACHES FROM REPULSE BAY HOTEL

after Christmas Eve Carnival
 and New Year's Eve Carnival
 To Hongkong Hotel ... 1.15 a.m.
 To Peak Hotel ... 1.15 a.m.

Evening Celebrations:
 Fancy or Evening Dress.

LATE PEAK TRAM CARS.

24th December 1928... 1.00 a.m.
 26th December 1928... 1.00 a.m.
 31st December 1928... 1.30 a.m.

Dinner \$4.00 per person
 Tea Dance \$1.00 per head.

Tables for the above may now be reserved.

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STAMP DUTY PETITION.

(Continued from Page 6.)

the plea of preventing the evasion of Duties, even if such evasion in fact exists, but that, in practice, there is, and can be, no substantial evasion of Stamp Duties. Your Petitioners beg leave to deal with the other avowed object of the Bill, namely, the prevention of the evasion of Stamp Duties.

21. Stamp Duties.
 (1) That Your Petitioners respectfully contend that there can of course be no question of "evasion" unless there is some subsisting legal liability which is being evaded.

(2) That the Stamp Duty Ordinance 1921, Section 29 (1) provides: "Where the consideration, or any part of the consideration, for conveyance on sale consists of any shares or marketable securities, the conveyance is to be charged with ad valorem duty in respect of the value of the shares or securities on the day of the date of such conveyance."

(3) That the Ordinance says:

(1) Transfer of shares 20 cents for every \$100 or part thereof of the value of the shares on the date of stamping. Period within which the instrument must be stamped: Before delivery by the broker.

(4) That in their preliminary observations Your Petitioners have already submitted that a transfer of shares is not legally complete until the same has been registered with the Company, and that the practice of dealings in shares by means of blank transfers, and without completing the transfers, is of historic origin, and is well known and well established. The stamp on the transfer is payable in respect of the complete conveyance, not in respect of any intermediate dealings with the mere right of ultimately calling for the completion of the transfer by the ultimate purchaser or other party entitled, e.g. a mortgagee.

(5) That that this is the position recognised and acted upon in England is shown by the following quotation:

"The transfer, in the case of a purchase on a Stock Exchange, contains the price payable by the ultimate purchaser. Where the transaction has passed through intermediate purchasers, this price may differ from that to be received by the transferor, and a note to this effect is to be found upon most forms of transfer used by stockbrokers. Where this form of transfer is used, the transferor is bound by custom to execute the transfer notwithstanding the difference in price."

(Halsbury's Laws of England, Volume 27, page 245).

Useful and Convenient.

(6) That Your Petitioners venture to assert that this practice was not unknown to the Government of Hongkong as is shown by clause 16 of the learned Attorney-General's observations in the "Objects and Reasons" annexed to the original Stamp Bill 1921, which is as follows:

"Clause 29 is an attempt to deal with the problem of blank transfers, i.e., transfers of shares executed by the registered owner in which the name of the transferee is left blank. These transfers pass to successive purchasers before finally completed and registered and thus many transfers escape paying duty. The question of making all blank transfers illegal was considered but it was thought that such a prohibition would interfere unduly with a common practice which has been found to be useful and convenient. Blank transfers are therefore not made illegal, but an inducement to prompt registration of transfers is offered, or, perhaps it should be said, a penalty is placed on late registration."

(7) That Your Petitioners beg leave to observe, parenthetically, that they could see no appreciable difference in effect between the "prohibition" of a practice, and a statutory enactment containing requirements which render the continuance of such a practice impossible from the point of view of everyday business transactions, and that the proposed legislation will undoubtedly have the latter effect upon the practice of Blank Transfer, which was recognised by the Government to be, in the words of the Government's authoritative spokesman, "a common practice which has been found to be useful and convenient," and in regard to which the same spokesman expressed the Government's laudable desire "not to 'unduly interfere with'."

(8) That, in regard to the old clause 29, Your Petitioners desire respectfully to refer to the opinion of the late Mr. A. G. Stephen thereon as expressed by him in the Legislative Council on the 25th April, 1921, as follows: "Hon. Mr. Stephen—Am I in order in referring to clause 29? I think the clause unwelcome and it has been wisely abandoned." (Hansard 1921, page 51).

The Old Stamp Bill.
 (9) That the amount of duty payable on "Share Contract Note," which was introduced by clause 27 of the old Stamp Bill, and which was entirely new to Hongkong was:—\$2.00 for all amounts up to \$10,000 and \$5.00 for all amounts above that figure.

(10) That the underlying idea of the old clause 29 dealing with Blank Transfer, above referred to, is the same as the new proposed legislation. The old clause, after due consideration of representations

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WHITEAWAYS

CHILEAN WARSHIPS.

BRITISH BUILT VESSELS
 READY TO PROCEED HOME:

London, Dec. 19.

The first pair of six Chilean destroyers, the Serrano and Orella, are expected to proceed to their home waters shortly, and yesterday the Mayor of Southampton presented the two vessels with their ensigns.—British Wireless.

made, was dropped in its entirety by the Government. At the same time the duty payable for "Share Contract Note" was raised to a maximum of \$10 (double of the original amount) varying with the amount of the consideration.

(11) That it is therefore clear that the increased duty on "share contract note" (from \$5.00 to \$10.00) was introduced to "compensate" the Government for the "escape" of Duties in respect of uncompleted transfers. Indeed, this was officially stated to be the position by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Mr. Claud Severn, who stated in Council:— "we have raised the rate on share contract notes, at the instance of the brokers themselves. It is an expression of their great relief in getting rid of this section" (i.e. old clause 29). (Hansard 1921, page 51). Your Petitioners submit that, on this ground alone, it would be unfair for the Government to proceed with the proposed Bill.

(12) That Your Petitioners submit that the "Share Contract Duty" raised by the amended Bill of 1921 from \$5.00 to the maximum of \$10.00, is payable in respect of every sale: it is, in essence, a "levy" on every transfer, in the popular sense, of shares.

(13) That having regard, therefore, to the well-known system of blank transfer, and to the history of the Hongkong legislation indicated above, Your Petitioners submit that there is, and can be, no possible question of evading Stamp Duties.

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By Eleanor Early.

CHAPTER XL

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"FLAME OF THE YUKON."

"Mrs. Eustis, will you come here, please?"
(To Be Continued.)

MAJESTIC THEATRE.

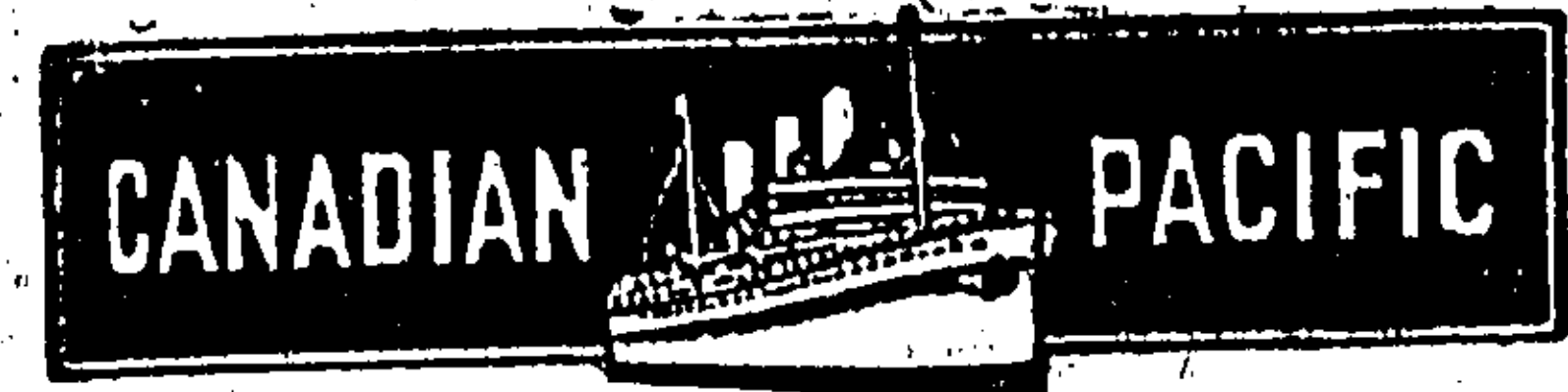
A special committee of the Racecourse Betting Control Board has been appointed to report upon matters connected with the rules of working totalisators.

SECOND TEST SCORES.

Total	68
-------------	----

BU LEUNG HUE,
Manager.

Hongkong, 22nd February, 1937.



S.S. "EMPRESS OF ASIA"

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THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 20th.

All passengers must be on board at 5 p.m. for medical inspection.

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SHANGHAI, JAPAN PORTS and VLADIVOSTOK.
M.V. "CEYLON" ... 24th December

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ATHOS II... 15th Jan.
D'ARTAGNAN... 29th Jan.
SPHINX... 12th Feb.
G. METZINGER... 26th Feb.
PAUL LEON... 12th Mar.
ANDRE LEBON... 26th Mar.
D'ARTAGNAN... 1st Jan.
SPHINX... 15th Jan.
G. METZINGER... 29th Jan.
PAUL LEON... 12th Feb.
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AMMUNITION CASE.

WELL-KNOWN CHINESE CHARGED.

Before Mr. R. E. Lindsell at the Central Police Court, yesterday afternoon, Mr. Soo Shu-kee, a member of a well-known local Chinese family was charged with being in possession of two rounds of ammunition and with obstructing a Chinese Revenue Officer in the execution of his duty.

Mr. M. K. Lo appeared for the defence. Mr. B. C. K. Hawkins, of the Imports and Exports Office, watched the case in view of an allegation made by the defendant.

In evidence, C. R. O. Lau Kiu said that at 3 p.m. on the 16th instant, he was on search duty on the Yu Cheong Wharf, Connaught Road Central, alongside which the Shekhi ferry junk had just berthed. Defendant landed with a large basket and witness was on the point of searching it, when the defendant ran away, but was caught by another Chinese Revenue Officer before he could progress more than a few paces.

His suspicions being thus aroused, witness said he took the defendant to the office of the Principal Chinese Revenue Officer, where, in a search made of the basket, for which a key was supplied by the defendant, he found a package containing a single round of ammunition. Another round was found when witness reached nearer to the bottom of the basket, after displacing goods and utensils of a homely character.

The search took place in the presence of Revenue Officer Grimmit, who had been sent for.

Allegation of Assault.

Examined by his Worship, witness said, he and other Chinese Revenue Officers never carried arms.

Mr. Lo: The defendant says you assaulted him and he wanted to report you for it?—No.

So no accusation was made at all against you that afternoon of assault?—None, whatever.

In further examination with regard to the manner in which he made the search and arrived at the discovery of the contraband, witness said that the first of the two rounds was wrapped up in a small piece of paper, which in its turn was wrapped up in another package with Chinese herbal medicine.

Mr. Lo: Before you opened it, did you know what it was?—No.

Before the case was adjourned, Mr. Lindsell remarked that it was a very extraordinary case. The defendant was a respectable man and a man of substance, which circumstance made it appear doubtful that he was endeavouring to smuggle two rounds of ammunition.

Mr. Hawkins, while agreeing, suggested that the defendant was bringing the two rounds here as samples.

NEW WHITE STAR SHIP.

MOTOR VESSEL TO BE NAMED THE BRITANNIC.

London, Dec. 19.

The motor vessel of 27,000 tons being built for the White Star Line at Harland and Wolff's yard at Belfast will be named Britannic.

The vessel will be used on the Liverpool-New York service. British Wireless.

THE ACTRESS WITH AN 'H'.

STAGE ASPIRATIONS REALISED.

Paris, Nov. 19.
A remarkable law suit between a legitimate daughter and the adopted daughter of her parents has been decided by the Civil Court of Marseilles.

Some 30 years ago M. and Mme. Bertrand kept a shop at Algiers. They had only one child, Louise, who, when she was about 16 years of age, left home.

They could not find her; and by way of consolation they adopted Lucy Leclerc from a Government home for abandoned children. The Bertrands, who are well to do, gave Lucy a good education, bestowed on her the name of Lucy Bertrand, and did not reveal to her that she was not their daughter.

Lucy went to the "conservatoire" of Algiers, where she obtained first prizes for singing and piano playing. Stage Hit.

With the consent of M. and Mme. Bertrand she went on the stage, and was very successful as an opera singer at Algiers and Marseilles.

She was performing at Algiers in 1915 at a matinee given for the benefit of war orphans when, on leaving the theatre, she was accosted by a woman, who asked her, "You call yourself Lucy Bertrand, don't you?"

Following an affirmative reply the woman struck the actress on both cheeks, saying, "That is, for your impudence in taking a name which is not yours. I am the daughter of the Bertrands. You are not."

Later the real Mlle. Bertrand applied to the court demanding that Lucy Bertrand should not be allowed to call herself Lucy Bertrand; and the judgment given in June 1916 was in Louise's favour.

Picking Up an "H."

After consulting her adopted parents, the actress decided to insert the letter "h" between the "t" and the "r" of "Bertrand"—which does not alter the pronunciation of the name of "Lucy Bertrand."

The actress continued her successful career, and last year she was the star of the opera season at Marseilles.

She did not hear any more from the legitimate daughter till recently, when the real Mlle. Bertrand (who had married and is now Mme. Roussel) applied once more to the court demanding that the actress should be forbidden to call herself either "Bertrand" or "Berthrand."

Tired of being pursued by the hatred of the Bertrand's daughter, the actress brought a counter suit against her, demanding damages for the trouble she is causing her.

The court decided in favour of the actress, saying she was perfectly entitled to use the name of Bertrand.

The former Mlle. Bertrand was also condemned to pay 3,000 francs damages to the actress and 500 francs to the direction of the Marseilles opera, whom she had brought into the affair.

She will also have to pay the costs of the law suit.

LETTER GOLF SOLUTION.

Here is the solution to the puzzle on another page.
HALL, FALL, FELL, FELT, FEET, FRET, FREE, TREE.

WIRELESS BROADCAST.

THE LOCAL PROGRAMME FOR TO-DAY.

Broadcast by G.W.O. on 300 metres. 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. British Official Wireless Press. Demonstration Programme. Chinese and European Music.

1.48 p.m. Weather Report. 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Demonstration Programme. 7.48 p.m. Evening Weather Report. 8 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Evening Programme. (Victor and H. M. V. Records).

"The Devout Lover," Percy Heming. Baritone. "Joggin' Along The Highway," Percy Heming. Baritone. "I Learned About Women From Her," Frank Crumit.

"A Gay Caballero," Frank Crumit. "Serenita," Melville Gideon. Baritone. "They Called It You," Melville Gideon. Baritone. "My Wireless Set," John Henry. Comedian.

"Valley of Laughter," Mavis Bennett. Soprano. "Bird of Love Divine," Mavis Bennett. Soprano. "Oh, You Have No Idea," Grace Fields. Comedienne.

"How About Me?" Grace Fields. Comedienne. "Roses of Yesterday," Jesse Crawford. Organ Solo. "Just A Night For Meditation," Jesse Crawford. Organ Solo.

"Is It British?" Norman Long. Comedian. "I Think Of You," Norman Long. Comedian. "The Stacking," John Henry and "Blossom."

"Gems from Aida," Victor Light Opera Company. "Troika En Trainaux," Rachmaninoff. Pianoforte. "Polka De W. R.," Rachmaninoff. Pianoforte.

10 p.m. British Official Wireless Press. "Les Preludes," Symphonic Poem. San Francisco Symphony Orch. "Tambourin Chinois," Kreisler. Violin.

"Thine," Meditation. Kreisler. Violin. "Prince Igor," How goes It Prince? Feodor Chaliapin. Bass. "Song of the Viking Guest," Feodor Chaliapin. Bass. God Save The King. Close Down.

INDIAN AGITATION.

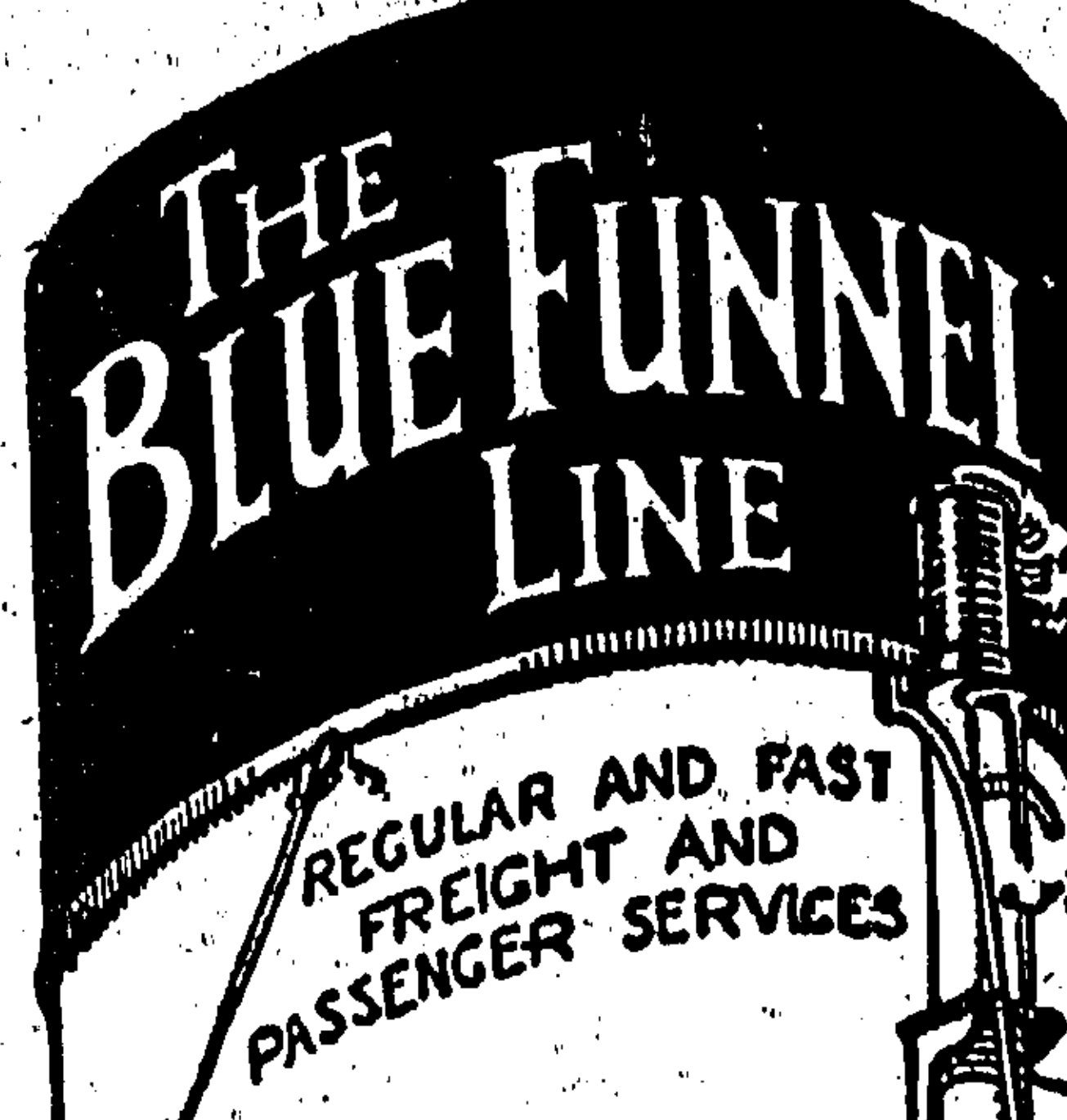
EUROPEAN ORDERED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

Jharas, Bihar Orissa, Dec. 19. The Bengal Government recently ordered Mr. John W. Johnston, representative of the League of Anti-Imperialism at the All-India Trade Union Congress, to leave India immediately. Mr. Johnston nevertheless addressed a meeting of the Congress last night, and has been arrested and taken to Dhanbad in a motor-car—Reuter.

BIG HAUL OF DRUGS.

A CONSIGNMENT VALUED AT £1,000,000.

New York, Dec. 19. The Treasury agents have seized at a pier on Hudson River a ton of narcotics, valued at a million pounds sterling, the largest haul ever made of narcotics, in five large cases which arrived on Friday aboard the French liner Rochambeau consigned to a man in Philadelphia, who is believed to be the head of a notorious international narcotic syndicate. — Reuter's American Service.



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"AENEAS" 22nd Jan. M'les, London, R'dam & Glasgow

LIVERPOOL SERVICE

"GLACIUS" 26th Dec. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & G'gow
"TYDEUS" 20th Jan. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & G'gow

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via Kobe & Yokohama
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"TALYBID" 24th Jan. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle

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"AUTOLYCUS" 8th Feb. New York, Boston & Baltimore

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"ATREUS" 26th Dec. Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama
"THESEUS" 30th Dec.

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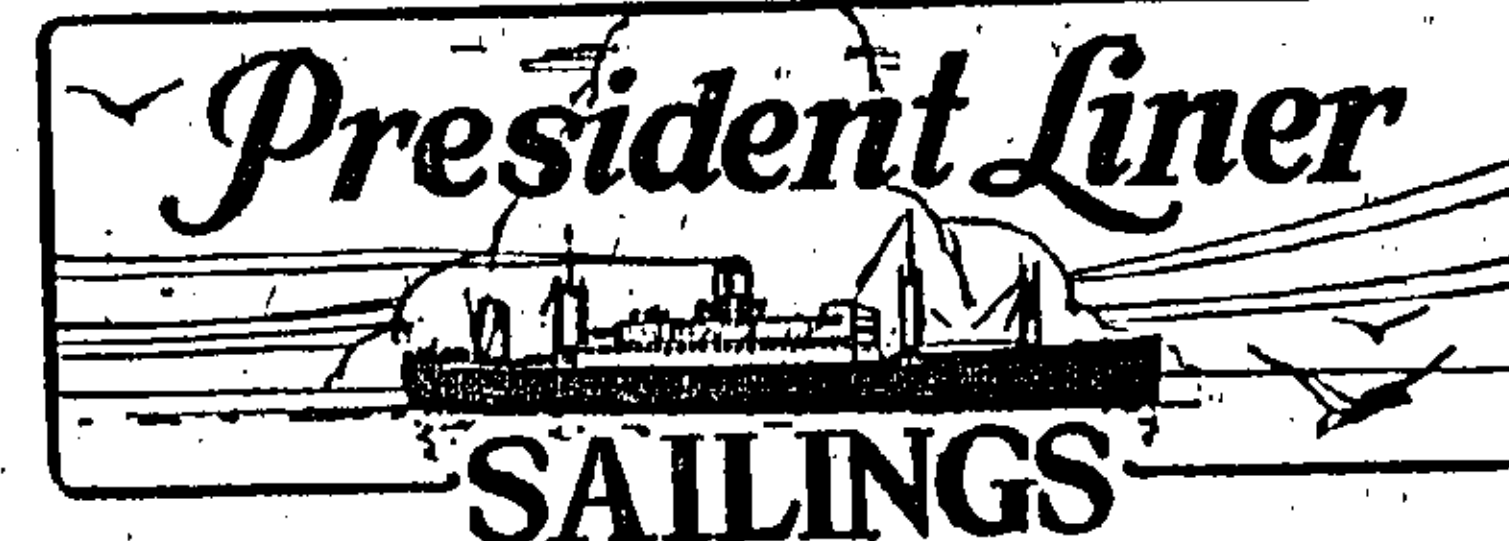
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Pres. Grant ... Tues., Jan. 23rd Pres. Jefferson ... Tues., Jan. 21st
Pres. Cleveland ... Tues., Feb. 11th Pres. Lincoln ... Tues., Feb. 4th

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Pres. Hayes Sun., Jan. 27, 8 a.m. Pres. Garfield Sun., Mar. 10, 8 a.m.

To Manila

Pres. Jackson ... Dec. 22nd, 6 p.m. Pres. McKinley ... Jan. 5th, 6 p.m.
Pres. Wilson ... Dec. 30th, 8 a.m. Pres. V. Baron ... Jan. 13th, 8 a.m.
Pres. Taft ... Jan. 1st, 6 p.m. Pres. Jefferson ... Jan. 15th, 6 p.m.

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TO MOJI & KOBE	Suishang	Wed. 26th Dec at noon
TO OSAKA via AMOY, SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE	Namsang	Sun. 30th Dec at 7 a.m.
TO STRAITS & CALCUTTA	Namsang Kutang	Satur. 5th Jan at 3 p.m. Wed. 9th Jan at 3 p.m.
TO SANDAKAN	Hinsang Mausang	Thurs. 17th Dec at 3 p.m. Fri. 11th Jan at 3 p.m.
TO CANTON	Chipsing	Sun. 23rd Dec at 10 p.m.
TO TIENTSIN via WEIHAIWEI, Cheongshing		Thurs. 20th Dec at noon

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2.00 p.m. "WING ON" from Wing Lok Wharf. 2.00 p.m. "SUI AN" (Sundays Excepted)	(Sundays Excepted)

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

ON SUNDAY, THE 23RD DECEMBER.

S. S. "SUI AN"

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TO SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA & VLADIVOSTOCK.	
Steamship "GLENSHANE" ...	31st Dec
Motor Vessel "GLENGARRY" ...	7th Jan
Steamship "CARDIGANSHIRE" ...	21st Jan
Motor Vessel "GLENGARRY" ...	11th Feb
Motor Vessel "GLENGARRY" ...	18th Feb

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INDIAN CONSTABLE DISCHARGED.

(Continued from Page 2.)

should take place by force and against the will of the girl. There was no doubt that the act did take place but he could not see that there was any evidence at all on which he could direct them to hold that the act took place without the girl's consent.

Girl not Imbecile.

If the girl had been so imbecile that she did not know what she was doing, did not know the difference between proper and improper conduct, and was incapable of exercising her own judgment at all, then there would have been a case against the prisoner, because one who had no control over judgment could not be held to give consent.

His Lordship continued that he had come to the conclusion it was impossible to get evidence from the girl. But the course of her life and conduct went to show that she was not an imbecile as far as he could see, to the extent to which she must be imbecile in order to hold her to be without judgment or knowledge of right and wrong.

It was, therefore, his duty under the circumstances, to say that there was no case to go before the jury and they must return a verdict of "Not Guilty."

After a brief consultation, the jury returned the required verdict.

Disgraceful Behaviour.

Addressing Inspector Phillips, Sir Henry Gollan said: "I should like you to call the attention of the Captain Superintendent of Police to the facts of this case. I think it is a very bad case indeed, and I think that the prisoner has behaved, on the admitted facts, very disgracefully."

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per M.S. Fulda on December 17—Mrs. C. Hoffmeister, Mrs. A. Gierich, Miss J. Arculli, Dr. H. Arculli, Mrs. J. Horag, Miss A. Pemboss, Mrs. L. Pemboss, Mr. W. Blake, Mr. W. Kroecke, Dr. Huber, Mr. L. Parker, Dr. Y. Mr. Ernst, Miss E. Stutz, Mr. E. Luehring, Miss H. Schneider, Miss M. Linz, Miss E. Voemel, Rev. G. Guarona, Rev. A. Bragion.

DEPARTED.

Per S.S. Sado Maru for Australia via Manila on December 19—Mr. A. G. de Jesus, Mr. B. Akaike, Miss Margaret MacKinnay, Miss Mildred Owen, Miss Josephine A. Brown, Mr. Antonio Blong, Mr. L. E. Ordenez, Mr. A. A. Fernando, Mr. Alejandro Gineza, Mr. E. R. Peacock, Miss A. K. Peacock, Miss E. M. Peacock, Mr. T. Toda, Mr. and Mrs. C. Pinto, Mr. T. Tanaka, Mr. A. K. Tomioka, Mr. T. Uchida, Mr. T. Kawakami, Mr. U. Nakaya, Mr. Y. Uchida, Mrs. C. Uchida, Mrs. T. Nakaya, Mr. A. Tomioka, Mr. T. Shigematsu, Mr. E. Uchi, Mr. Y. Oyano, Mr. K. Ohnishi, Mr. H. Inasu, Mr. M. Idzumi, Miss K. Mihara, Miss T. Matsuo, Miss K. Iwakawa, Mrs. I. Inasu, Mrs. I. Oyano, Mrs. K. Kato, Miss F. Katagiri, Mrs. Katova, Mr. Lee Leung.

behaved, on the admitted facts, very disgracefully."

Speaking to the witness Sullivan, his Lordship said, "Your behaviour has been truly disgraceful, too. You stood by and did nothing while the prisoner took this girl away. I don't believe the story that you have told. You are an utter disgrace to the police force to which you belong and the sooner you are out of it the better."

After his Lordship had remarked that it was a very bad case, but they could do nothing more, the prisoner was discharged.

CHINESE FLIGHT.

THE SUCCESSFUL LONG DISTANCE VENTURE.

[By R. Vaughan-Fowler.]

On arrival at Tai Sha Tau Aerodrome early on Tuesday the 18th, I discovered the buildings gaily decorated with flags, and the whole place alive with excitement as news had been received the previous evening that General Cheung Wai-cheung and his two companions were to arrive about 1 o'clock. During the morning, rumours got about that the General would remain in Nanchang where he had landed the previous evening, but these were all unfounded and the crowd who had assembled to welcome the aviators was not to be disappointed.

About one o'clock, Marshal Li Chui-sun arrived and walked across the aerodrome to the hangars where the Aviation Cadets were drawn up in two ranks. There were also contingents from the Navy and Police Force, and officials from all Departments of the Canton Administration.

Those present were entertained to various aerial displays by machines belonging to the Aviation Bureau, one event being three machines taking off in formation; this greatly delighted the onlookers. Shortly before two o'clock, two machines took off and proceeded northward to meet the Ryan monoplane, and at 2.10 p.m. a cry went up from one of the crowd who had sighted the Ryan far away in the distance. She was at about 2,000 feet and flying fast.

As she came over the aerodrome she turned to the right and passed over the City; immediately returning she shut off and glided down in to the aerodrome, making a perfect landing right in front of the spectators, who sent up ringing cheers.

Medals Presented.

Whilst the Ryan was taxiing up to the hangar, the machines in the air dived and zoomed in all directions, but the spectators did not notice them; they were far too keen to greet the aviators in the Ryan. General Cheung was the first to leap out of the monoplane. He was caught up by three of his officers and chaired the remaining distance to the hangar. He saluted Marshal Li, who then congratulated him and pinned a gold medal on his chest. By this time, the other two officers who had taken part in the flight had alighted and were chaired in a like manner, each being received by Marshal Li and receiving at his hands a similar medal to that presented to the General.

For fully fifteen minutes the aviators were surrounded by friends and officials wishing to congratulate them; so dense was the crowd that a way had to be cleared for their vehicles to reach them. Group photographs were taken and a cinematograph record made.

Mail From Shanghai.

It was then discovered that General Cheung had brought with him from Shanghai, a mail, newspapers, and a number of presents. The Post Office, which had been previously notified of the mail, had set up a "sub-office" on the aerodrome, and letters were immediately delivered. Amongst the presents were several boxes

WAR PENSIONS.

INTERESTING FIGURES FOR TEN YEARS.

London, Dec. 19. Major Tryon, the Minister of Pensions, in a memorandum states that £360,000,000 will have been expended on pensions by March next.

Unemployment among disabled ex-Service men, excluding those totally incapacitated is less than five per cent. of the total number of men pensioners. The war pensions expenditure of the last year, ended March 31 last, amounted to about £60,000,000, and for the current year would total £57,000,000.

Comparison of the aggregate expenditure on war pensions of France, Germany and the United Kingdom for the ten years since November 1918, shows—France, £450,000,000, Germany £350,000,000 and the United Kingdom, £278,000,000.

As to the cost of administration the total sum so absorbed in ten years was not more than £26,000,000, or 4.2 per cent.

The pensioners number at present about 970,000, making together with dependent wives and families, about 1,500,000 persons.—British Wireless.

of Shanghai chocolates and cakes; these were opened and quickly consumed much to the delight of all present. One officer belonging to the Bureau received a box of cigars, sent by his wife, it is understood. He offered them round and in the excitement quite forgot himself, much to the amusement of those around him. Speeches of welcome were then made, General Cheung making a short reply, after which the proceedings took a more unofficial turn.

The Official Programme. General Cheung informed me that he was absolutely satisfied with the flight, it has enabled him to obtain a large amount of really valuable data, which, in turn, will greatly assist in the organisation of the air routes. He spoke very highly of the Ryan monoplane, and in particular of the Wright Whirlwind engine, which has run perfectly during the whole trip. No machine or engine troubles have been experienced and the only work that has been carried out has been filling up with petrol and oil, cleaning plugs and filters; neither of the last duties were really necessary but were done as a precaution.

The programme of the flight is as follows:

Departure.	Time.	Arrival.	Time.	Miles.
Canton	11.35	Hankow	4.00	155
Hankow	12.00	Nanking	1.00	200
Nanking	12.30	Leifong	1.45	240
Leifong	2.00	Tientsin	2.45	320
Tientsin	2.50	Mukden	3.50	400
Mukden	3.55	Tientsin	4.45	385
Tientsin	4.50	Nanchang	5.40	410
Nanchang	5.45	Canton	6.15	410

The mileage given is for the direct flight between each place, but it must be realised that the actual miles flown were more than this figure, which comes to 3,607. Here, it is interesting to note that many of the flights are between places that will eventually be connected by aerial services, for instance Canton-Hankow which was made in 7 h. 15 minutes—a very considerable saving of time over surface transport. Tientsin-Shanghai is another excellent example of what aerial transport will mean to China, a distance of 614 miles covered in 6 h. 60 minutes.

These are not "stunt" times or

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All claims must be sent to the undersigned before Thursday the 27th December, 1928, or they will not be recognized.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the consignees, and the company's Surveyor Messrs.—Goddard & Douglas at 10.00 a.m. on Monday the 24th December, 1928.

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No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

L. LESDOS, Agent.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1928.

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All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 8th January, 1929, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 22nd December, 1928, at 10 a.m. by Messrs. Goddard and Douglas.

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Hongkong, 16th December, 1928.

figures, they may be taken as fair examples of what can be done by ordinary mail and passenger machines. They are therefore of very considerable value, as they prove once and for all that China is suited to the saving of time is so great that it is bound to be of importance to the business of the country.

The Future.

Now that General Cheung Wai-cheung, and his two companions, Colonels Yang Koon-yu and Wang Yok-pei have shown the way, it would be a great pity if plans were not immediately drawn up for the development of aerial transport throughout China. Commercial companies will have to be formed, and the organization prepared, but this will have to be done with very considerable care. The present time is so opportune for the work to proceed; let it go ahead with caution as a mistake in the early stages may ruin all the excellent work that these very gallant aviators have done for their country.

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ALIPORE	5,273	24th Jan.	Straits, Colombo & B'way

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TALMA	10,000	6th Jan. 1929.	S'pore, Penang & Calcutta
SANTHA	7,754	26th Jan.	S'pore, Penang & Calcutta

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KALYAN	9,144	23rd Dec.	S'hai, Moji, Kobe & Yok
ALIPORE	5,273	1st Jan.	Moji & Kobe
SANTHA	7,754	2nd Jan.	Amoy, S'hai, Moji, Kobe, Yok & Osaka

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Katori Maru ... Saturday, 29th Dec.

Atsuta Maru ... Saturday, 12th Jan.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.

Aki Maru ... Wednesday 23rd Jan.

Miehima Maru ... Wednesday, 20th Feb.

BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang & Colombo.

Nagato Maru ... Thursday 27th Dec.

Yamagata Maru ... Sunday, 30th Dec.

SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Japan, Honolulu,

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Anjo Maru ... Friday, 1st Feb.

SOUTH AMERICA (EAST COAST) via Singapore,

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Kamakura Maru ... Saturday, 5th Jan.

NEW YORK via PANAMA.

Takaoka Maru ... Monday, 31st Dec.

Tatsuno Maru ... Saturday, 16th Jan.

LIVERPOOL via Port Said, Genoa & Marseilles.

Dakar Maru ... Friday, 21st Dec.

CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon.

Rahoon Maru ... Saturday, 29th Dec.

Genoa Maru ... Monday, 7th Jan.

SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

Hakodate Maru (Kobe Direct) ... Friday, 21st Dec.

Daisogoo Maru ... Monday, 23rd Dec.

Hakone Maru ... Monday, 24th Dec.

Mito Maru ... Wednesday, 26th Dec.

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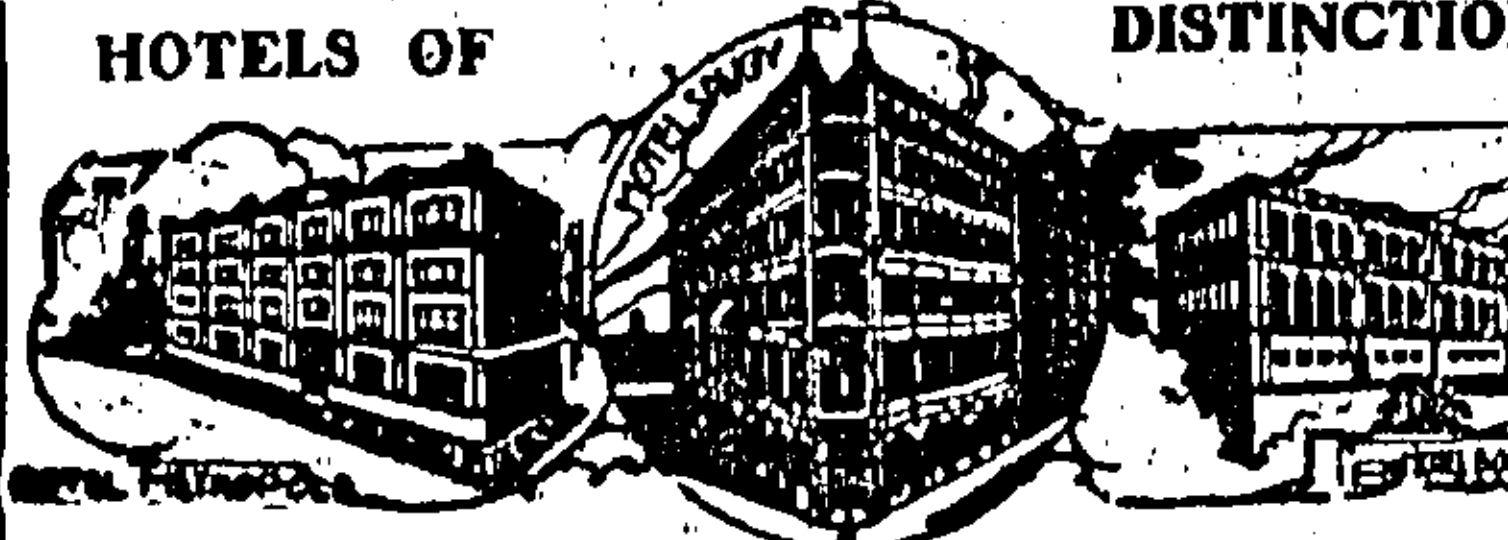
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Construction
THE HOTEL RIVIERA,
MACAU.
Cable Address:—"RIVIERA, MACAU."

BRIGANDS ATTACK CAPITAL.

KABUL DISTURBANCES EXPLAINED.

BRITISH RESIDENTS NOT IN DANGER.

FIGHTING IN THE EAST.

London, Dec. 19.
The Afghan Legation says that the main trouble in Afghanistan is centred in the eastern districts near Jelalabad, where the tribes have risen on account of new taxes and passport identity regulations.

The revolt, the Legation says, is in no way connected with the King's reform schemes, and certainly not as regards the purdah (veiling) system. Veiling is practically unknown among these rebellious tribes.

The rising in Jelalabad is not connected in any way with the fighting at the capital, Kabul, which is now perfectly quiet.

King Amanullah some days ago motored to Jelalabad and returned to the Palace at Kabul immediately. He had never had cause to take refuge anywhere, and certainly not in a fort which do not exist at Kabul.

The Legation states that it has throughout been in communication with the capital. Messages have been sent by wireless to Peshawar, and telegraphed from there to London.

Fighting at Jelalabad.

Sir Austen Chamberlain made a statement in the House of Commons to-day regarding Afghanistan. He said that fighting appeared to have broken out again at Jelalabad but he had no precise information.

As regards Kabul, a report had been received that tribesmen, led by the notorious brigand, Bichu Sagan, attacked on the west of the city on December 14th and 15th and captured two forts.

He had no exact information regarding the developments since that day as the British Legation, which lies outside the city had been unable to use the wireless station, which is near the Palace in the centre of the city.

From the reports of an aeroplane which flew from Peshawar yesterday in order to establish communications with the British Legation, and other indications, it appeared the aerodrome in the neighbourhood of the Palace was still in the possession of loyal forces.

Rescues From Air.

Plans were worked out some time ago by the Government of India for the withdrawal of women and children by aeroplane in case of need. The aeroplane already mentioned, which was despatched on the cessation of messages from the British Legation, received a message by signal to the effect that all in the Legation were well.

The leaders of the tribesmen assured the British Minister on December 14th they had no hostile intentions towards the Legation, but the Government of India would, of course, take all possible steps to ensure the safety of British nationals.

Airmen Safe.

Reports have been published that a British aeroplane had been shot down. It was, however, stated at the Air Ministry to-night, that the pilot, Flying Officer Trusk, who was accompanied by Leading Aircraftsman Donaldson landed safely at Kabul yesterday. —*Reuter and British Wireless.*

New Delhi, Dec. 19.
The rebels are reported to have seized two forts overlooking Kabul, with large quantities of arms and ammunition, and are awaiting reinforcements to press their attack.

A Royal Air Force plane engaged in an attempt to establish communication with the British Legation with a view to possible evacuation of British and Indian women and children, was shot in the radiator and compelled to make a forced landing. The Kurram and Khyber authorities are making efforts to send assistance, but the exact locality of the landing, also the fate of the pilot and observer, are unknown.

Kabul-Quetta telegraphic communications have improved, and numerous messages have been delivered to the Legation. Belated messages to India are also coming in. —*Reuter.*

HOME FOOTBALL.

London, Dec. 19.
Playing at home in the First Division of the English League, Aston Villa defeated Manchester City by five goals to one. —*Reuter.*

WHITE STAR LINER WRECK.

DIFFICULTIES OF "CELTIC" SALVAGERS.

EXTENSIVE DAMAGE.

London, Dec. 19.
The precarious position of the big White Star liner "Celtic" which went on the rocks near Queenstown Harbour a week ago, is giving rise to anxiety in view of the development of extremely bad weather.

The cargo is being taken out of her holds as rapidly as possible and is arriving at Liverpool, but the work of salvaging is most difficult on account of the rough seas, which not merely makes the salvage of the 22,000-ton ship itself impracticable, owing to the extensive damage to her bottom, which has been revealed, but gives few opportunities of getting out much of the cargo.

The "Celtic" was carrying a large amount of cargo when she met with mishap. It consists largely of wheat and fruit, and is likely to be worthless before it is reached, while it is unfortunate that it must be removed before a large quantity of valuable metal at the bottom can be touched.

Most of the cargo is fully insured. —*Reuter.*

WILL OF MR. CHARLTON THORNE.

HONGKONG ESTATE VALUED AT \$40,000.

Mr. Charlton Thorne, late of The Ridge, near Petersfield, Hants, formerly of No. 12, Alexander Square, Chelsea, Middlesex, who died at sea on January 27, this year, left Hongkong estate to the value of \$40,400 while net personalty in England amounts of \$68,803.

Re-sealing of probate of the will has been granted to Mr. D. V. Stevenson of Deacons, who is the attorney of the widow, Mrs. Nancy Stuart Thorne, to whom everything is bequeathed. In the will the testator expressed a wish that Mrs. Thorne, so soon as it is convenient, shall give a donation of \$250 to the London (R.F.H.) School of Medicine for Women.

Letters of administration in respect of the estate of Li Fung, alias Li Fung-tso, alias Li Kam-sang, alias Li Hor-ping, alias Li Lun Yee Tong, alias Li Luen Yee Tong, have been granted to Mr. John Fleming and Mr. A. Ritchie, chartered accountants of the Chartered Bank Building. They are the attorneys of the widow, Li Kam-shi.

Li Fung died intestate at No. 63, Wo Ling Lane, Tai Sun Street, Canton, on August 25, this year, leaving Hongkong estate worth \$60,000.

He left a surviving widow, a concubine and 15 children. The local estate of Wong Tung, alias Wong Chun-nam, accountant, who died intestate at No. 16, Chiu Lung Street, second floor, on September 13, this year, amounts to \$25,000. Letters of administration have been granted to the widow, Wong Tom-shi, living at the Chiu Lung Street address.

DECISIONS IN YEO TRIAL.

QUESTIONED POINTS TO BE SETTLED TO-DAY.

There are two cases of piracy to come before the Chief Justice (Sir Henry Gollan) at this month's Criminal Sessions, which will be resumed to-morrow week.

One case concerns Yuen Ping-kwan, who is charged on two alternative counts in connexion with the piracy of the s.s. *Anking*, these being (1) piracy with acts endangering life and (2) piracy. The case was adjourned because it will be necessary for the ship's officers to attend the court to give their evidence and at present the vessel is away from the Colony.

With regard to the second case, in which Ho Fu is charged with piracy of a fishing boat, his defence is being conducted by Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K.C., and the plea has been raised that prisoner has already been tried and acquitted for the same offence in China, under Chinese law; therefore he cannot or should not be tried again for the same offence.

This case, which has also been adjourned until to-morrow week, was put off in order to give the defence an opportunity of obtaining evidence in support of the plea. In the event of the first mentioned case being proceeded with on the appointed day, another date will probably be fixed for hearing the charge against Ho Fu.

It is understood that a decision as to whether or not Carvalho Yeo will be tried on the two charges additional to those on which he has already been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, will be made known this afternoon when the matter is being brought before the Full Court.

MALAYA'S RUBBER FUTURE.

CAPT. ORMSBY-GORE'S BLUE BOOK.

MANUFACTURING CENTRE FOR RUBBER ARTICLES?

RESEARCH IS URGED.

London, Dec. 19.
An interesting discourse on the problems of the rubber planters is contained in the report of Captain the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, concerning his visit to Malaya, Ceylon and Java, which has been issued as a Blue Book of 166 pages.

The most interesting section deals with the rubber situation, in connexion with which Captain Ormsby-Gore says he is convinced that on research, rather than on restriction, depends the prosperity of the rubber industry.

The principle result of restriction, he states, has been to stimulate immensely both the quality and quantity of production of rubber in unrestricted areas.

Malayan Industries.

It may be premature to prophesy a great industrial future for Malaya, but the development of factory production in British Malaya is sufficiently striking to make one wonder whether the growing demand in the East for articles manufactured from rubber, would not be met ultimately by the establishment on a large scale of manufacturing industries in countries where the raw material is produced.

Every sympathy, he says, must be felt for the efforts of the rubber industry to organise itself and to stabilise the marketing of rubber, but he feels very strongly that the less any Governments have to do with such schemes the better.

Stabilising Rubber.

Dealing with the schemes for stabilisation, Captain Ormsby-Gore points out that they depend on the renewed intervention of the Colonial Governments, and an understanding for identical action by the Government of the Dutch East Indies.

Nothing he had learned in Java would lead him to suppose that the second of these conditions, essential to the first, was at all likely to be realised.

In his discussion of this problem, Captain Ormsby-Gore expresses the opinion that it is clear that the modern developments regarding bud-grafting and selection, is destined to play a more and more important part in the future of the rubber industry than any other factors.

Dutch Achievement.

In another part of his Blue Book, Captain Ormsby-Gore says he was much impressed by the work of Holland as a colonial power in the Far East.

Probably no tropical dependency was more fascinating or presented more varied interest than Java.

He feels he owes a very special debt of gratitude to the Dutch Government for the invitation to visit it, and to the Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies, and many other officers serving under him, for their generous welcome and hospitality.

Everything possible was done to facilitate his tour of the island and he hopes his report will arouse interest in Java and its fine record of achievement particularly in the scientific fields which were in evidence there. —*Reuter.*

AIR SERVICES TO AFRICA.

AN IMPORTANT BRITISH MERGER.

London, Dec. 19.
The Imperial Airways announce a merger between themselves and the Cobham-Blackburn Air Lines, Ltd., which has arranged for the operation of air services to Africa, particularly the establishment of a route from Egypt to Capetown. —*Reuter.*

FINE WEATHER.

To-day's Observatory report states that the anticyclone over China is unchanged. Strong monsoon will continue along the east coast of China and over the N. China Sea. The forecast till noon to-morrow is:—"N.E. winds, strong; fine."

TWO PASSIONATE HUMANS

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WHO DARED A
FORBIDDEN LOVE!

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FAZIL
with
The Prince of Loves
CHARLES FARRELL
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A RECORD BREAKER IN SHANGHAI
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At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.20

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RONALD COLMAN
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Based on the Stage
Success.



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At 5.15 & 9.20 only.
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The Flame of the Yukon
A splendid, virile, pulsing
melodrama of the wild
Canadian Northwest in the
days of the gold rush, when
strong men loved, fought,
toiled and died in their
frenzied search for riches,
and where only the fittest
were fated to survive!

WITH SEENA OWEN, ARNOLD GRAY.
AT THE
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Continuous 2.30 to 11.15.

